Jordan Times

جوردان تايمر يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،

League regrets renewal of Libya sanctions

CAIRO (Agencies) - The Arah League said on Sunday in regretted the U.N. Security Council's decision on Friday to renew sanctions against Libya for failing to hand over two men accused of blowing up an American airliner in 1988. The league's secretary-general, Esmai Abdul Maguid, said the council had failed to take into account Libya's offer to let the men stand trial under Scottish law at the premises of the International Court of Justice in the Hague. Arab League foreign ministers approved the Hague proposal in March but Britaio and the United States, both permanent members of the Security Council, said it was unacceptable. "Dr. Esmai Abdul Maguid ... expressed the Arab League's regret at the Security Council's decision," a league statement said. "He said that Libya had done the utmost possible to contain the Lockerbie crisis and that it had shown flexibility and great positiveness in dealing with it, with the aim of reaching a peaceful solution to it," in added. "He had hoped that the Security Council would take into account this serious and new proposal (of a trial in the Hague) to prevent an escalation of the situation," it said.

Volume 18 Number 5682

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AMMAN MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1994, SAFAR 29, 1415

Price: Jordan 150 Fils

Aqaba hosts Jordanian-Israeli summit today

Meeting expected to herald new momentum in negotiations

From Nermeen Murad in Agaba

A HISTORIC Jordanian-Israeli summit will be beld here today, heralding in a gew momentum in negotiafons between the two states that some politicians expect will go a long way in speeding en agreements on the more complex negotiations over boundaries, water and secur-

The meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, which will be highfighted by a series of symbolic gestures, will underline Jor-dan's commitment to work towards a peace treaty with lead if the Jewish state reciprocates the Kingdom's good will gestures by taking steps to end the outstanding problems over boundaries and water that still keep the two countries apart.

In the run-up to today's summit, which will be attended by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Jawad Al Anani appeared to

pert city are not renophobic by nature. After all they are

in daily contact with tourists

who have at one point or

mother shopped in their

their hotels. But they are not

ready for today's guest.
When Israeli Prime Minis-

ter Yitzhak Rabin arrives

here today, there will be no

cheering crowds or banners

Jordan and Israel have exebanged "eonfidencebuilding measures" that officials here hope will set the foundation for the chain of bilateral, trilateral and multilateral negotiations that have taken a momentum of their own since Jordan hosted the Wadi Araba talks in mid-

"Putting the hostility be-hind us is necessary," a senior official who requested anonymity told the Jordan Times. "It means we will spend less time wrangling over gestures and more time discussing substance."

Despite the public sentiment that the process of normalising relations with Israel is moving too quickly, officials helieve that Jordan has positioned itself to gain substantially by ending the state of belligerency between it

Information Minister

state of war between Jordan

residents do not crave peace.

Israel is our enemy," a shop-

keeper in downtown Aqaba told the Jordan Times Sun-

day. "I cannot change how I

While giving a long histor-

But it is not because these

"In our school textbooks

Aqaba residents nonplussed

From Nermeen Murad in Agaba

RESIDENTS of this Red Sea welcoming the end of the

and Israel.

feel overnight."

be signalling this point in a short press conference this week when he said that the King's meeting with Mr. Rabin will focus on 'implementing the provisions of the Washington Declaration, particularly with regards to issues related to regaining Jordanian sovereignty on its occupied land and water rights and the need to speed up negotiations on those two particular issues."

Israel's decision to give Jordan four million cubie metres during the four months of summer was seen hy analysts as the first indication of Israel responding to Jordan's decision to end the

Many are expected to follow. And officials point to Tuesday's Dead Sea bilateral negotiations as the "testing ground" for Israel's willingness to become serious in meeting Jordanian rights. During the peace talks,

(Continued on page 7)

ical and religious recount of

why Arabs should never trust.

"them," the sbopkeeper

nevertheless said he would

(Continued on page 7)

serve them as customers if



Work under way on Sunday at the inauguration site for the

Crossing,' about four kilometres north of Aqaba (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Araba Crossing' to be launched today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein today meets with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the port city of Agaha amid intensified moves to implement provi-sions in the Washington Declaration signed by the two leaders in Washington last

they came by his shop.
"I would probably be all of belligerency. mixed up emotionally when I U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is be thinking in three ways economically, religiously and nationally," said the 27-year-

scheduled to arrive in Jordan early Monday from Syria (see separate story), will also attend the Aqaba meeting. One of the key events of

the day is the opening of a

month ending a 46-year state

horder crossing between Aqaba and Eilat as part of the measures agreed in the Washington Declaration.

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan will represent King Hussein at the opening ceremony, which will be attended by Mr. Christopher and Mr. Rabin as well as Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres.

The opening of direct tele-phone lines, another step stipulated in the declaration, was completed Sunday (see separate story). The first call was made by Israeli President Ezer Weizman to King Hussein, who arrived in Agaba early Sunday ahead of Monday's summit.

The Eilat-Aqaba Crossing, formally titled "Araba Crossing," will be limited to third country nationals who will be issued visas at the site on a condition that they spend at least three days in Jordan, officials said. The same condition applies to those crossing into Israel from Jordan.

Mr. Chistopher will inaugurate the crossing hy driving across and continuing down to Aqaha, officials said. A group of 40 Spaniards will be the first tourists to use

Israeli checkpoints at the site include immigration and customs offices, moneychangers, restaurants, tourist offices

opening ceremony. The King will also host a lunch for the Israeli and American guests and take them on a short

ancient city of Petra north of

ceremony. Jordanian and

and taxi stands. The summit will follow the

cruise of the Gulf of Agaba. He will also attend a joint press conference with Mr. Rabin and Mr. Christopher. An anconfirmed report said Sunday Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres might visit the

Phone lines opened

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan and Israel on Sunday opened direct telephone links and the first call was made by Israeli President Ezer Weirman to

His Majesty King Hussein. The lines went operational exactly at noon Sunday, 24 hours earlier than suggested in media reports.

'Good morning Your Majesty," Mr. Weizman said in Arabic as he opened the brief call broadcast five on Israel Radio.

The King answered in Enelish: "I am very happy indeed to have this opportunity to speak to you. I hope that we will continue to get in touch and I look forward to

seeing you sometime soon." "You have an open invitation to visit Jerusalem, within two hours take-off time, any-

time," said Mr. Weizman.
"Thank you very much indeed," said the King. "It's very kind of you. I hope it will happen sometime soon.' King Hussein called the

phone links "a very good step forward" and said he hoped the public would take advantage of the change. Mr. Weizman expressed bope that lines would soon be

open hetween Israel and other Arah countries. The two leaders signed off the call with mutual best

wishes. The Israeli president's call to the King was the first signal to many that direct

(Continued on page 7)

Jordan moving with clear goals, has made major strides, Majali tells opposition

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Sunday told opposition parties that Jordan's moves in the Middle East peace process had made substantial progress towards regaining its territorial and water rights and resuming its central role in the region without jeopardising the rights of other Arab countries.

The prime minister also pointed out Jordan was successful in including the issue of the Palestinian refugees as an issue for negotiations.

Dr. Majali, in a meeting with the secretaries-general of eight political parties, also noted that all successive Jordanian governments had Middle East and for im-Plementing United Nations Security Council resolutions

242 and 338, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said. The meeting came after the

eight parties sent a memorandum expressing their opposition to the peace process and criticising the government for its approach (see page 12).

Jerusalem.

Dr. Majali made a brief review of the developments in the Arab-Israeli conflict and said Jordan, along with other Arab countries, took Israeli peace negotiations with the clear objective of

The meeting was essential-

ly a dehate between the party leaders and the prime minis-ter during which the politicians expressed their reservations over the peace process and emphasised the need to regain Arab sovereignty over

restoring Arah rights and

enabling the countries in the region to live in peace.

The prime minister noted that the process launched in Madrid had reached advanced positions, and just and comprehensive peace treaties, as and when reached, would end the conflict in the region.

On the issue of Jerusalem, Dr. Majali referred to the provision in the Washington Declaration in which Israel recognised the Kingdom's historic role vis-a-vis the Islamic holy shrines in the Holy

He said the final status of Jerusalem was an issue to be discussed by the Palestinians and Israel in line with their sovereignty over the holy places is the recognition of a reality and an affirmation of

Jordan's role in safeguarding the shrines," the prime minister said.

This Jordanian status was endorsed by the Palestine Liheration Organisation (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, when Jordan severed its legal and administrative links with the West Bank in July 1988, Dr. Majali

pointed out. Dr. Majali told the party leaders that his government respects their viewpoints on all important issues.

But the government's stand "does not mean that one could relinquish his/her responsibilities towards his/ her country and public interests," the prime minister said. "Nor could he/sbe refrain from respecting the Constitution and the laws

(Continued on page 7)

Christopher holds talks

The only new thing which makes the step for peace

Syria and Lebanon are the only participants in nearly

phone calls to Mr. Rabin and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa on Friday, expressed concern about a surge of violence in South Lebanon pitting guerrillas against Israel and its

self to contact any of the

AMMAN (J.T.) — The sense of helonging is the funvalues."
"Whoever says modernisadamental element that has tion affects these values is underestimating the sense of belonging to the legacy of always helped Jordan and Jordanians to shoulder their responsibilities, face up to historic originality and is challenging our ability to hard decisions and over difficulties, His Royal Highness adapt to a time when we are on the threshold of the 21st Crown Prince Hassan said century," the Crown Prince Addressing a festival in

Fuheis, a town 20 kilometres The Crown Prince said Jorwest of Amman, the Crown dan had sacrificed and was Prince said Jordan and Jordacontinuing to sacrifice in its nians continue to believe in endeavours to safeguard its the sense of belonging to the national identity and to keep nation as one of the firm its head high and unbowed principles. except to Almighty God. The Crown Prince said the On Jerusalem, the Crown

democracy in Jordan and the Prince said the holy city was a National Charter of the Kinguniting symbol for Muslims dom are based on one cause - national unity - and Father Hanna Kildani deliemphasised the Kingdom's efforts throughout the years and still ongoing towards pro-tecting the Jordanian identi-

vered an address at the festival expressing support for steps taken by His Majesty King Hussein to achieve peace in the region. "We support what King

Hussein finds fit. We cannot be loving Palestine, Jordan and Arab countries more than you do," said Father

"Your grandfather Al Hussein Ben Ali is buried next to que; the late King Abdullah had sacrificed his blood for its

the Dome of the Rock Mos-

"Therefore, the issue is not only Palestinian and Arah, it is also Hashemite 10 which King Hussein has devoted his life. And the King is not seeking a role in Jerusalem and Palestine, but this role is imposed on him by the Great Revolt at the Arab level, and by his ancestry at the Islamic level and by the Omari pact at the Christian level, Father Kildani said.

Other addresses were delivered to voice support for the King's efforts for peace. Prince Hassan, who was

accompanied at the opening ceremony by His Royal Highness Prince Rashed Ben Al Hassan and Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, toured the festival's various activities, including an agriculture exhibition which was introduced to the festival this year upon directives by the Crown Prince.

Prince Hassan also visited the Orthodox Church Gallery, an exhibition of national documents and books and an exhibition of paintings.

part in the international Sept. 13 declaration of princibeen calling for the establishples signed in Washington. 'Jordan's religious ment of a just, comprehen-tive and durable peace in the peace conference in Madrid in 1991, launching Arab-

Jordan reaffirms Jerusalem stand to PLO team AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Tabi Al Hassan on Sunday met with a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) delegation and explained Jordan's position on

Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Petra said Mr. Hassan explained to the delegation the details of Jordanian statements issued reaffirming the Kingdom's position vis-a-vis the continued Hashemite role in safeguarding and maintaining the Islamic holy shrines m

The PLO delegation, which arrived here Sunday in line with a decision taken by the Palestine National Authority (PNA) in Gaza and tricho, includes Palestinian Minister of Information Yas-Abed Rabbo and senior PLO leader Faisal Husseini. The team's meeting with Mr. Hassan was attended by the acting chief of the Palestinian mission here, Omar Al Kha-

stressed to the delegation 'Amman's clear position over the issue of Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem and the continued Hashemite Jordanian role in exercising religions jurisdiction over them."

An Amman-based PLO official told Reuters the Palestinian administration was "very concerned to contain any negative repercussions of the Jerusalem issue and the need to restore relations to a warm cordial level."

The PLO has been upset by a clause in a declaration signed last mouth by Jordan and Israel ending a 46-yearold state of war that recognises a special role for Jordan in Jerusalem's Muslim holy

The Palestinians see East Jerusalem as capital of their

Jordan has repeatedly affirmed that it supports the PLO's campaign to gain political sovereignty over East Jerusalem and this view does Petra said Mr. Hassan not clash with Jordanian role in Muslim shrines in the Holy

His Majesty King Hussein on Sunday received more cables of support for his efforts to establish a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East and safeguard holy places in Jeru-

The-King received a cable from Patriarch of Jerusalem Deodoros I expressing in his own name and on behalf of the Arab Greek Orthodox community appreciation to the King for his steps and efforts to lay down the foundations of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region and safeguard the boly places in Jerusalem.

Patriarch Deodoros said: "With great interest and strong helief in your courageous Hashemite leadership, we followed up Your Majesty's hlessed efforts to shape a new future for this region, which the future generation will accept." He expressed hope that the

Washington Declaration "will be a step on the path of achieving peace and maintaining security and stabil-

The King also received a cable from Secretary General of the Higher Arah Committee for Palestine Khalid Roubi, who expressed pride in the King's honourable stands. "We in the committee al-

ways looked at Your Majesty as the symbol and the leader who will enable us Jordanians and Jordanians of Palestinian origin as one family to regain our usurped rights in accordance with international legitimacy," he said. Al Ahd party members in

voiced support for the King's steps, which culminated in the Washington Declaration. The party members support "your daring steps which have resulted in the materialisation of the great Arah dream which we have long dreamed of," a cable addres

sed to the King said.

Irhid Governorate also

with Assad

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who has taken a personal interest in trying to make peace beween Syria and Israel, held fresh talks in Damascus on Sunday on his second Middle East shuttle in less than a

Mr. Christopher, expected to bring fresh thoughts from Israel on the differences hlocking progress between the regional rivals, said before leaving Israel that the latest flare-up of violence in South Lebanon underlined the need for a settlement.

Bnt his Syrian hosts, in a commentary hroadcast on state-run Damascus Radio shortly before his arrival, said that only a clear statement from Israel that it would withdraw fully from the Golan Heights could unblock the negotiations.

possible is a clear statement by Israel committing itself to full withdrawal from the land (it occupied) to the pre-1967 boundaries," the radio said. Mr. Christopher, who met Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Saturday, began talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad shortly after arriving from Israel on Sun-

Sunday.

absorb modernisation with-

l out sacrificing "our original

three years of peace talks yet to conclude even an interim peace deal with Israel. Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation both have. Mr. Christopher, in tele-

"What links us in this united family is our sense of belonging to Jordan," said Lebanese militia allies. the Crown Prince, adding "Frequently when attacks like this occur I've been that Jordanians, equipped with planning, dedication, education and work, could asked or I've prompted my-

(Continued on page 7)



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on an annual festival in Fubels, 2 town 20 Sunday visits an exhibition mounted as part of kilometres west of Amman (Petra photo)

Sense of belonging is guiding Jordan's march — Prince

Arafat to honour aid criteria — U.S.

Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat has promised to meet conditions holding up international aid to Palestinian self-rule areas during talks in which Egypt played a key role, a senior U.S. official said.

Mr. Arafat "was quite focused and he was quite responsive in... what he said to us," during a meeting in Alexandria, Egypt, on Saturday that included Egyptian Presi-dent Hosni Muharak and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the official

But the official, who asked not to be identified, said Washington will watch to see if Mr. Arafat really follows

Mr. Christopher, who later left Egypt for Israel, is in the Middle East to keep Israel-Syria negotiations on track and boost the Israel-Jordan declaration signed last

Donors have pledged \$2.4 hillion to help Palestinians develop and assert control over Gaza and Jericho, now accorded self-rule under an Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace agreement. Bui Mr. Arafat. struggling to govern these desperately needy areas, has complained that the aid is not flowing fast enough.

The United States, other donors and the World Bank are reluctant to release huge sums without adequate con-

U.S. officials say, however, a U.S. project to build new houses has broken ground and funds to clean up Gaza and employ 12,000 people have been released.

Palestinians, under Israeli domination for so long, are unused to self-rule had to huild their governing authority from the bottom up. Donors are sympathetic but insist aid be subject to controis to prove how it is spent.

Mr. Christopher warned two weeks ago that Mr. Ara-

Jordan.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

A physiotherapist is required to work for

a community-based rehabilitation prog-

ramme under the supervision of Al-

Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of

the Physically Handicapped and in

cooperation with the Holy Land Institute

for the Deaf and other organisations in

Therapists who have some experience

writing to the following address:

Enclose CV and certificates.

travelling within the Kingdom.

N.B.: The job requires a good deal of

Female applicants are most welcome.

Applications are accepted until October

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM fat must provide better documentation for the aid, sign an mentation for the aid, sign an agreement with the Overseas Private Investment Council (OPIC) to underwrite U.S. firms doing husiness in the Palestinian areas and finish design work on some pro-

On Saturday, "there were some very clear commitments on the OPIC agreement, on project design, on Arafat himself having these meetings with the (World) Bank people to finalise the precise problems we identified," the official said. Mr. Arafat said "I will do

this," the official added. According to the Americans, the strategy for Saturday's meeting in Alexdria was worked out in advance and Mr. Mubarak played a key role. First, Mr. Arafat

met Mr. Mubarak and then

the two men met with Mr.

Christopher. The U.S. side specified measures the Palestinians must take to get development projects moving but made clear Washington was also asking donors to expedite

"... One of the things that we have seen is the chairman (Arafat) seems to be more responsive in terms of making commitments in precise areas when he is in the presencw of President Mubarak," said the senior U.S.

Mr. Arafat was ostracised hy many Arah countries backed Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis over Kuwait. Mr. Mubarak bas done business with Mr. Arafat ion this critical peacemaking period when other Arah states - like Saudi Arahia and Kuwait - kept the PLO leader at arms' length.

"Therre is a relationship (with Muharak) that is obviously a very important one to him," the official said, adding: "Also when Arafat's got the two of us there he can't be saying one thing to one side and something else to the other."



NEW CROSSING: A Jordanian officer, a member of the United Nations Armistice Commission between Jordan and Israel, meets with Israeli officers at the "Araba Crossing," north of Agaba on Sunday ahead of the op ng on Monday (see page one) (Photo by Yousef Al

Israel seeks Vatican clarification on Waldheim

VIENNA (AP) — Former Austrian President Kurt Waldheim is once again at the centre of controversy, this time over his receipt of an

award of papal knighthood. Israel asked the Vatican on Tuesday to clarify the distinguished award of knighthood in the 147-year-old Order of Pius IX, made in a July 6 ceremony at the Vienna offices of the papal nuncio.

The timing of the award was curions, coming just months after the Vatican and Israel recognised each other in December and first exchanged ambassadors in

The award bas barely raised a public eyebrow. in Dr. Waldbeim's Roman Catholic homeland.

But it has angered Jews. The disparate reaction recalls the bitter 1986 controversy over Dr. Waldheim's alleged concealment of his service in the German army in World War II.

Austrians, shying away from their own Nazi accepted that Dr. Waldheim served in the Wehrmacht, as did tens of thousands of Austrians. Many seemed prepared to forgive him for keeping his wartime past a secret, although there were also calls for him to stand

Many Jews in the United States and Israel, however, considered Dr. Waldheim now 75, a virtual war criminal for his service in the Balkans near the site of Nazi atroci-

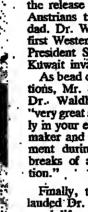
The July award of the pap al knighthood was attended by leading Austrian figures and several foreign diplomats. It was barely reported in Austrian media, and passed without public comment. At the ceremony, Papal Nuncio Archbishop Donato

Squicciarini said the Pope decided the knighthood award Feh. 22. However, such decisions usually are not pnblished for months after the In his fulsome oration, Mr.

Squicciarini gave a glowing account of Dr. Waldheim's tenure as U.N. secretarygeneral from 1972-1982, and Anstrian president from 1986-1992, according to a copy of the remarks obtained this week by the Associated He said it was a "high

honour" for him to present the award to Dr. Waldhein and made no mention of the international and domestic furor caused by Dr. Waldheim's term as president, or of his diplomatic isolation. Dr. Waldbeim was declared persona non grata in

the United States and a 1987 visit to the Vatican was one of only a few he made abroad



Kurt Waldheim

Mr. Squicciarini instead focused on Austria's role as a fighter for human rights on "the fateful dividing line be-tween West and East," and praised Dr. Waldheim's leadof Kuwait in 1990.

You took an initiative with great courage, with statesmanlike strength of decision and generous readiness to help," Mr. Squicciarini

He referred also to Dr. Waldheim's visit to Iraqi president Saddam Hussein in late August 1990 to secure

the release of more than 90 Anstrians trapped in Bagh-dad. Dr. Waldheim was the first Western leader to meet President Saddam after the Kuwait invasion.

As bead of the United Nations, Mr. Squicciarini said, Dr. Waldheim performed 'very great services, especially in your efforts as a peacemaker and in crisis management during countless outbreaks of armed confronta-

Finally, the papal nuncio lauded Dr. Waldheim's personal life, noting Dr. Waldbeim's 50th anniversary with his wife Elisabeth will be celebrated this year. Mr. Squicciarini will hold a

mass on Aug. 9 to mark the occasion, the Austria press agency said. "As a man and as a Christ-

ian, you made a marriage with the intention, to live m love, faithfulness and unity drawn from the strength of God," Mr. Squicciarini stres-His words appeared a

swipe by the Roman Catholic establishment at Dr. Waldheim's successor Thomas Klestil, who disappointed many leading lights of his conservative Catholic People's Party when his marriage broke up earlier this year amid reports of an affair with a much younger female aide.

Kuwait tightens drive against graft, corruption

LONDON (R) — Kuwait plans to send a high-powered legal team to London this week to prepare the ground for asset freezes as part of a crackdown on corruption and financial irregularities in the Gulf Arab state.

Sources close to the Kuwaiti government said Lawyer General Dharar Asousi, a deputy to Kuwait's attorney general, will lead a team of four hoping to use British courts to recover money from the 1982 collapse of Kuwait's unofficial stock exchange.

The cause is the latest in a series of Kuwaiti legal actions to spill over into the British

Late last month Britain's commercial court granted "mareva" orders, which freeze bank accounts pending trial, against three defen-dants alleged to have been involved in embezzling \$100 million from the state-owned Knwait Oil . Tanker Com-

Former officials of the London-based Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) have also had assets frozen, pending a \$500 million civil suit over the \$5 million collapse of Grupo Torras, the KIO's Spanish investment arm.

The latest moves also address Kuwaiti fears over the flight of capital. But some high-ranking Kuwaitis believe any legal action abroad does little but wash the country's dirty linen in public.

"It's a logical step. Marevas are a pre-emptive strike. They are a political weapon, sending a signal there is no refuge in stashing money abroad," a source close to the government, said.

"But you have to prove a powerful case, that's perhaps been not aired. Even if Kuwait wins, it loses," the source added.

The attorney general's office in Kuwait could not be contacted for comment. The Kuwaiti embassy in London and the KIO both said they could not comment officially on the case.

Kuwait is still reeling from the squandering of oil re-venues earmarked for future generations in the Torras Amid allegations of fraud

and secret political payments, it is already claiming \$1.0 billion damages in trials in The KIO is also under in-

vestigation by British tax anthorities over allegations it benefitted from £600 million of illegal tax breaks from the purchase of a stake in oil giant British Petroleum Co. PLC six years ago.

Official sources say the Britisb government would

like to resolve this latest embarrassing affair quickly and quietly.

But by fighting a second front over Torras in London, the KIO opens itself up to legal "discovery" - having to reveal all sorts of potentially sensitive documents to the defence.

WRITE STATES

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That means the tax authorities will not settle until the Spanish affair is over and may follow new leads thrown up on the way, sources say.
Still, the 1982 collapse of Kuwait's informal bourse. built on post-dated cheques, dwards them all.

Known as the "\$20 billion bad debt problem," the collapse of the speculative secondary market has haunted the Kuwaiti government, the country's leading hanks and bigh-rolling Kuwaitis since 1982, long be-fore the economic hlight caused by Iraq's August 1990 invasion.

Much of the money has or will be repaid under a scheme to repay 45 per cent of debts. which runs out next mone - or have them rescheduled over the next 12 years.
Some 3,500 dehtors,

though, did not sign up by the scheme's March 31 deadline and sources say eight highprofile investors - six Knwaitis and two non-Kuwaitis - will be initially targetted by the Asousi team. They will also focus on assets held at the London-based United Bank of Kuwait, the sources say.

A commercial bank quarterly economic review said on Sunday Kuwaiti business sentiment appears more pbeat and the emirate has put Gulf war disruption behind

If oil prices maintain recent firmness the state of the emirate's finance will improve but the pursuit of measures to control the state's budget deficit remain important, the review by the National Bank of Kuwait said.

"The Kuwaiti economy has now put behind it the major problems and dislocations of the immediate post-liberation period, and recent indicators reflect a more upbeat tone in business confidence and activity after a proleng phase of relative stagnation, the review said in its business

"If the trend of improvement in oil prices observed in the second quarter of 1994 is maintained during the remaining part of the year, and recent expectations generally favour this scenario, oil revenues and hence the budgetary situation will not be as bad as was projected at the start of the year."

Palestinians fear for future as Hebron observers head out

in working with disabled children in HEBRON, occupied West Bank (AFP) — Palestinians particular and who are ready to work in direct contact with the families and m the massacre town of Hebron are voicing fears for their community are welcome to apply in future after the international observer force heads out on Monday, although they say the unit never had enough The Holy Land Institute for the power to keep the Israelis in

Amid mixed feelings over the end of the force's mission, Palestinian critics complain that Israel stripped the white-coated observers of any authority over troops and Jewish settlers in the Israehoccupied West Bank town. The Temporary Interna-

tional Presence in Hebron (TIPH) made up of 116 unarmed Norwegians, Italians and Danes announced Friday its mission would end on

Aug. g, completing a threemonth mandate. "TIPH believes it has near-

as president.

ly fulfilled its mission in Hebron, only a few points are still unsolved," said spokesman Bjarno Sorensen. He referred to efforts to

reopen the Ibrahimi Mosque. where a Jewish settler slaughtered more than 30 worshippers on Feb. 25, and the town's vegetable market near a Jewish settlers' dis-"TIPH has... been able to

lower the level of tension in the city," the spokesman said. "Life in Hebron is on the move back to normal.' At Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) insistence, the 166 observers were deployed in the town on May

8. The complex has since remained closed. Marwan Abu Munshar, a Palestinian engineer, was apprehensive about the fu-

"We expect things to blow up after they leave. The army is behaving itself now because the TIPH is here," said Mr. Ahu Mnshar, who allowed the force to use his roof-top as an observation

Hebron Mayor Mustafa Natshe conceded that the TIPH had achieved some success in curbing violence against Palestinians. "The army now tries not to use live bullets, and when they do. they shoot at legs," he said. But the observers had "only reduced, not lifted the suffering," he said. "We would have liked them to have more authority, to stop closures," such as at the vegetable market, and cur-

"We consider the observers our guests, bere to enjoy the mountain air," said another resident, Izzdein Al Sharbaty, adding that his wife and son had been stoned by

"The TIPH came to see me, they took down notes. But what can they do? All they carry is a pen and pap-

The force itself came under some heavy-handed treatment. Unwanted by sceptical Palestinians, it was the target of stone-throwers and was also exposed to the army's

tear-gas when trapped in the cross-fire. "We had to go around to ... schools to explain to the chil-

dren that the white uniforms meant: 'no stones'." Mr. Sorensen said. The observers reported unrest and the army's actions to joint Israeli-Palestinian committee. They had no

policing role and opted not to The observers patrolled the streets in small white cars, video-taping incidents

while keeping in touch with one another and the Israeli

The Palestinians have said they wanted the TIPH to stay on but failed to approach Israel for a joint request, an

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Royal Jordanian (RJ)

..... Rhodes !

Frankfurt; Cop

Muscat, Abu Dhabi (GF

Sanaa (IY)
Roine (AZ)
Cairo (MS)
Dubai (EM)

..... Beirut (add) (ME) Amsterdam (KL)

.. London (El

Bahrain, Doha (R.

Israeli foreign ministry "They (the TIPH) bave fulfilled their task in bringing

back calm after the Februar killings," said Tath Samash. Their last Friday here was a typical one for the TIPH. with youths hurling stones 2: soldiers who fired back with tear-gas. The youngsters fled into a hospital and life re-

turned to normal. Aharon Domb, a spokesman for Hebron's 400 settlers who opposed the naprecedented deployment of an international force as a threat to Israel's hold over the West Bank, was conciliatory.

"At least they saw that settlers are not at the root of the violence," said the spokesman.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

P.O.Box 15, Salt.

17:00	Pif Et Hercul
17:10	Beaumanoi
	Musiques Sans Frontiero
12.30	News in French
	News in Hebres
19:15	The Weekly Sport Magazin
29:00	News in Arabi
	My Big Brother Jak
41:10	A Galactic Odysse
22:00	News in English
22:20	Matri
	No Job For A Lad
23:10	NO 300 FOL A LAIG

PRAYER TIMES

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	632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Assunctation Te 637440.
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De la Saile Church Tel. 661757
Terrasancia Church Tel: 622366
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Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 771331. ion Tel. 684195 atter-Day Saints Tel. 654932

WEATHER

Ammun Tel. 811295

Bulletin supplied by the Depart-ment of Meteorology.

The Evangelical Local Church in

westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate

Agaba

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USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS **NIGHT DUTY**

Dr. Hanna Mansou . 786680 . 816715 Dr. Rizq Abu Zinah Al Asema pharmac 636730 644945 637660 623672 847632

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EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111 630341 Civil Defence Emergency 199 Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777 775121 843402 Highway Police ... Traffic Police ...

.. 630321 661176 Water and Sewerage 787111

ZARQA: . 774111 Water Authority Jordan Electricity Authority 815615 . 08-53200 ess Haya Hospital (03)314111

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn Akileh Maternity, J. Amn 642441/2 Jabal Amman Maternity 642362 6641714 Shmeisani Hospital ... University Hospital ... Al-Muzsher Hospital ... The Islamic, Abdali 669131 . 845845

Al-Abli, Abdali Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarga Navional Hospital

Dubai, Abu Dhabi Ri New Delhi R Rhodes RI

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

INTERNATIONAL

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ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

Dhahran (kl)

Damascus (kl)

Al 'Ain, Abu Dhabi (kl) ---... Dubai, Muscat (R.) Other Flights (Terminal 2) Beiru (ME

DEPARTURES

(Terminal 1)

Flights

HIJAZ RAILWAY TRAIN. man 8:00 every Monday 5:00 p.m. every Monda) 7:30 a.m. every Sunday

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NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) - Labour Minister Khaled Ghzawi Sunday visited the North Shuneh district where he and with District Governor Nael Azab and other officials for talks which centred on the foreign workforce in the lordan Valley. The minister decided to set up a committee to be chaired by the district governor. The committee was entrusted with conducting studies on the foreign workforce in the district and was authorised to deport foreign workers who do not hold valid work permits.

Mafrag prepares for Prophet's anniversary

MAFRAQ (Petra) - The Awgaf and Islamic Affairs Department in Mairaq governorate has finalised prepara-tions to celebrate Prophet Mohammad's birthday, Department Director Mohammad Kreishan said Sunday. Mr. Kreishan said the governorate's major celebration of the occasion will be held Monday Aug. 22, at Al Mafraq Grand Mosque after noon prayers.

Sales, marketing skills training ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A training programme on "basic sales and marketing skills" concluded at the Industrial Development Bank's Jordan Management Institute. Several officials representing industrial, commercial and services establishments participated in the week-long programme which aimed to develop the participant's marketing skills and to familiarise them with means of defining the needs of consumers in the Jordanian market. Several experienced specialists gave lectures at the programme on market research and planning, promotion, marketing skills and consumer behaviour. In another development, a new herr rescaet course on financial analysis was opened at the institute Sinday. Several government officials are participating in the week-long course aiming to acquaint the participants with the importance of using financial analysis in the decision making process.

New post offices open in Karak Governorate

KARAK (Petra) — The Karak Governorate Communications Department has opened seven post offices in various parts of the governorate during the first half of this year, according to Karak Communications Director Mohammad Majali. Mr. Majali said these offices are serving citizens in the areas of Uneiza, Ghor Al Safi, Al Mazare', Al Taybeh, Al Nn'aimeh, That Ras, Afraneh, Al Shihabiya and Al

Authorities destroy biscuits, chocolates

ZARQA (Petra) - The Zarga Governorate Health Department Sunday destroyed large quantities of biscuits and chocolates which were found unfit for human consamption. Department Director Talal Khreisat said the quantities destroyed consisted of 119 boxes of biscuits and 74 boxes of chocolate and candy. He said owners of these quantities were fined and referred to the concerned

Laser conference to open at JUST

AMMAN (Petra) - The Second International Laser Conference will open Saturday at the Jordan University of Science and Technology (IUST). The three-day conference, which is organised by the university's Physics Department, will discuss 50 working papers dealing with the uses of laser beams in medical, engineering and other acientific fields. Some 157 specialists from Iraq, Algeria, Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Italy, the U.S. in addition to Jordan will participate in the conference.

Science week goes into 4th day Papers include novel mathematical formula

By Rima Cortbawi Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Included among the working papers on Sun-day's Jordan Science Week sessions, "the impressive nature of the paper on the novel mathematical formula innovated by First Lieutenant Yahia Hashem shnuld be acknowledged," said Brigadier General Abdul Wahab Kharabsheh, procurement director of the Armed

Lt. Hashem created a new method to solve complex algebraic equations in a simpler, less time-consuming and more accurate way. His solntion formula was published in the SIAM journal in the U.S.

Opening the second session Sunday, Minister of Finance Sami Gammoh said that since the 1960s, Jordan has been proceeding towards improving human and other resources. This, he said, is manifested in directing financial support to research and development (R&D) and education.

This year, the minister said, double the amounts of money has been allocated for science and technology in comparison with previous years, especially towards R&D departments in the productive sectors such as agriculture and industry rather

than the social sectors. According to Safwan Toukan, Ministry of Planning secretary general, "the social sectors have so far enjoyed

more financial support than the productive sectors." Dr. Toukan drew a comparison between Jordan and other countries on the per-centages allotted from their

gross national product (GNP) for development purposes.

Dr. Gammoh added that in
Japan, 3.5% of its GNP is

channelled towards R&D. Director of the Development Sector at the General Secretariate of the Higher Council for Science and Technnlogy (HCST) Talal Akasheh gave an andio-visual presentation on the short and long term nhjec-tives of the National Document on Science and Technology.

Later, two experts discussed the development of drug manufacturing in Jordan and the pharmaceutical companies' R&D departments as well as individual and regular communication and the advantages of using the worldwide network of commnnications (Internet) in educational and industrial in-

Finally, Brig. Gen. Khar-absheh, who is the director of the organising committee of the science week, ontlined

the importance of a solid infrastructure in the interaction and integration of all institutions in Jordan. He also stressed on the significance of the time factor in any strategic plans, saying "almost every mathematical equation includes a time fac-

Sunday's events, held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC), included three ses-

The first involved three working papers on the recycl-ing of solid waste materials, the incorporation of new technologies in constitution methods and a novel formula for solving complex algebraic

equations.

The seennd revolved around further discussions on the strategie policies of the National Document of Science and Technology, especially concerning the financing of research on applying science and bio-technology.

The last session comprised four working papers on future cooling gas substitutes in the Jordanian Armed Forces, the design of a testinstrument to study any sedimented materials in the central-heating station of Mn'tah University, unifica-tion and standardisation of the different building styles

and revitalising rechargeable

400 handicapped persons to get jobs in government — ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — The government has selected 400 out of the 500 handicapped persons who have applied for obs to fill vacancies at ministries and government departments, according to Secretary General of the Ministry of Social Development Sulei-

man Rousan. Mr. Rousan said this measure complies with a Cabinet decision to implement Disahled Persons Law Nn. 12 of 1993, which stipulates that two per cent of government posts are allocated for qualified disabled persons whose handicaps do not prevent them from carrying out their

Concerning handicapped applicants who did not qualify, Mr. Rousan said the Ministry of Social Development has decided to create a department to rehabilitate and employ the handicapped and has asked its departments around the Kingdom to accept their joh applications and to belp them find employment in the private

Thus far, he said, the ministry has officially appointed 204 of the 400 handicapped persons who were selected.

Mr. Rousan urged all private sector companies, factories and firms to adhere to He said the ministry is ab-the law by making certain out to prepare its 1995 hudget centres next year.



young woman receives secretarial training at Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped (File photo)

that two per cent of their workforce be occupied hy handicapped individuals. This year the ministry has

established three centres for the handicapped in Jerash, Ajloun and Balqa governorates which provide services to about 500 individuals, be

Mr. Rousan added that the ministry has received double the number of applications it can handle from families of handicapped persons requesting services.

which will focus on opening more centres to absorb larger numbers of handicapped persons in areas that do not have such centres.

Mr. Rousan said the cost of hosting any person with severe handicaps costs the state more than JD 300 a month.

The ministry, he added, is also working nn expanding the capacity of rehabilitation centres.

It currently operates three vocational rehabilitation centres for the handicapped, and is planning to open two new

Boy dies 2 days after beating

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN -- An eightyear-old boy who was listed in critical condition at Jordan University Hospital on Friday after being beaten by his brother, died Saturday, according to police reports.

Yazid Khalid was beaten by his 15-year-old brother Shadi during an argument, the report said. According to the re-port, the father of the two

boys had divorced their mother recently and married another woman. The day of the beating incident, Mr. Khalid and

family, and left the children at home. When they returned they found Yazid in poor health and took him to the hospital.

In his testimony to police, Shadi said that he did not intend to kill his brother, and that he was only trying to "teach him a The youth is in police

custody pending further investigation. Police would not say where the incident took place, but only that the family resided in Amman.

Shepherd found dead

Meanwhile, Querah police Sunday were investigating the mysterious death of a 52-year-old shepherd whose his new wife went to visit

decomposing body was found in a deserted area, in the southern part of Jordan, by another shepherd, police reports said.

The reports said that A.S.S. was grazing her sheep in a pasture and saw a person lying on the ground. When she approached the person she discovered he was dead.

The report said that the body was positively identified by the victim's brother. The deceased known as Musa (52) had been dead for more than a week, said the doctor who examined the body. The body was transferred to Al Bashir Hospital for an auto-

As of Sunday evening, it was still not determined what caused Mr. Musa's death. Police said they are investi-

Jubilee School team represents Jordan at Asian conference on gifted students rammes for gifted students.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Inbilee School of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF) participated in the Third Asian Conference on Caring for Gifted and Excelling Students held in Seoul last week. Participating delegations in-cluded those from Southeast Asia, India, China, the U.S., Canada, Australia, Israel, Germany, the Netherlands, South Africa, the European Union (EU) and the International Council for Gifted Stu-

dents. Jubilce School Director Fathi Jarwan, who represented the school at the conference, Sunday said the meeting included workshops, lectures and presentations of working papers by the parti-

Dr. Jarwan said the conference also discussed several educational studies on detecting gifted students and the best means to develop their talents and skills.

of the International Council for Gifted Students had published two working papers to acquaint participants with the Jubilee School, the only Arab educational institution at the conference.

He said the editorial staff

Dr. Jarwan said he presented a working paper on the school's programmes, and highlighted the role of non-governmental organisations in providing care for gifted students.

He said he reviewed the hievements of the NHF

and its distinguished role in the educational field.

He pointed out that the Jubilee School, considered the first of its kind in the Arah World, seeks to develop well-studied educational programmes to enable it to meet the special needs of gifted students.

The Jubilee School director lauded His Majesty King Hussein's continued support for educational development projects in Jordan and commended Her Majesty Queen Noor's interest in gifted students' programmes in the Kingdom, stressing that the Queen plays a major role in supporting the march of the school and bringing its ex-

Not in the 'classical' manner, but ever so enchanting

AMMAN — When presenting classical pieces of music in the "classical" manner, audiences of the Jerash Festival may not warmly welcome the show; that is why, perhaps, the National Music Conservatory (NMC) of Noor Al Hussein Foundation had a surprise in store last week. At the Artemis Theatre, Iragi conductor Mohammad Othman Sidiq led the NMC orchestra Thursday night with six pieces including: "The Marriage of Figaro Overture," Beethoven's Symphony No. 5, Mozart's Symphony No. 40, Agnes Bashir's "In Jordan," Antoni Dvorak's "Slavonic Dance

andience called for encores of the last two pieces.
Friday night the NMC Concert Band was joined by the Beirut Symphony Band in performance conducted by NMC Director Kifah Fakhouri. With Her Majesty Queen Noor in attendance, the Artemis Theatre nearly

No. 3," and Aram Khachatu-

nan's "Sabre Dance" The

By Angham Tamimi burst with about 1,300 peo-ple, most of whom were edu-cated people, music special-ists and students of music. Looking for a kind of en-

chantment to attract the

largest andience possible, "we thought of a great and special performance to suit the Jerash audience," Kifah Fakhouri told the Jordan Times. "The purposes of this joint performance was to introduce the wind instruments to the public who have a wrong idea about them, second, to present the audience with Jurdanian musical productions, third, it was a chance to make musical reciprocal visits in order to enrich our knowledge, and fourth, to offer the public a positive idea regarding these kinds of activities, which may lead to increasing the number of musically educated peo-

The pieces performed included: "The Marriage of Figaro Overture," "Peter and the Wolf' 'The Phantom of the Opera Medley,"
"Aladdin," "All for Love" (Bryan Adams), "Hero" (Mariah Carey), "The River

of Dreams" (Billy Joel), and of Music, attended the show and expressed his astonishment to Mr. Fakhouri. Mr. highlights from 'The Little Mermaid," various Arabie "Beauty and the Beast," and Tchaikovsky's "1812 Over-

Instead of presenting some music orchestrally, and to keep the audience from feeling bored, a video tape of the related Disney animations ran alongside the musical

The NMC performance was a mixture of Arabic and foreign pieces suited to adults and children. "It is important to cooperate with other Arab orchestras in order to get to know each other," said Mr. Fakhouri. "We felt exiled from some parts of the Arab World. For instance, we had no idea about the Iraqi Symphony Orchestra until some of the teachers working there came to Jordan after the Gulf war. By then we discovered how advanced they were in this field," added Mr.

Munir Bashir, director general of the Arab Academy

Bashir told the Jordan Times that the NMC show is a new themes, highlights from trend in the world of Arab festivals, and that joint performances should be continued and enlarged in order to reflect a better idea about the musical cultures all over

the world. "Regardless of the crowds, we were able to enjoy the performance. I congratulate Noor Al Hussein Foundation for introducing such performances that give us a completely different picture from what we are accustomed to," added Mr. Bashir.

Although the NMC show was good enough to attract a large andience, "the press was absent," complained Mr. Fakhouri. "No journal wrote about the two-NMC nights. In addition, Jordan TV did not broadcast the tape sent by the NMC to the station. They (JTV) decided it was fare enough to broadcast one dull piece, "The Planets," which we inserted into the show, and which gives no idea about our two shows."

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Complex

WHAT'S GOING ON

FUHEIS FIFTH FESTIVAL

- * Concert by Iraqi vocalists Ala' Sa'd, Ali Al Isawi, and Ahmad Ni'meh at the main theatre, off the Greek Orthodex Convent at 21:00.
- Salt" with the participation of Mr. Wishah Wishah, Dr. George Tarif, Mr. Awad Gammoh, Mr. Mohammad Tarawneh, and Ms. Ranwa Al Khatib at the festival site
- Exhibition of Jordanian scripts, documents, and books. * Abstract art paintings exhibition by Salwa Ammaren, Darya Zetzifa, Norma Hattar, and Ilias Tu'meh.
- * Exhibition on the city of Salt. Caricature drawings exhibition by Imad Hajjaj, Kifah Mahmoud, and Khaldoun Gharaibeh.
- * Exhibition of handicrafts. . * Comprehensive agricultural exhibition (held for the first fine with the participation of the private and public

- Play in Arabic entitled "The Man Who Ate The Goose" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 20:00.

CONCERT AND MELODRAMA Concert by "The Family International Group" at the

- Royal Cultural Centre at 20:00.
- ★ Melodrama in Arabic for children entitled "The Children's Garden" at Haya Cultural Centre at 17:00.

EXHIBITIONS

- ☆ Exhibition of water paints by Sudanese artist Abdul Qudir Al Bakhit at Baladna Art Gallery, Gardens Street (Tel. 687598).
- * Ceramic exhibition by artist Haidar Ra'ouf at the Royal Cultural Centre.

★ Exhibition entitled "Environmental Technologies: A Travelling Information Centre" at the American Center. Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Orfall Art Gallery in Umm Utheina (Tel. 826932).

Bosnian Serbs vow to fight alone

SARAJEVO (R) — Bosnian* Serb leader Radovan Karadzic has pledged to fight on alone after a week in which he has been cut off by his mentor, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, and his forces bave come under NATO air attack.

The United Nations reported no let-up in fighting in central Bosnia, an area where the Serbs have lost some ground to the Muslim-led Bosnian army in the past few

In Sarajevo, sniping con-tinued and French U.N. antisniper teams on the government side of the inner-city front line fired back at Serb marksmen with machineguns and cannon mounted on their armoured personnel carriers.

"We have deployed a lot of troops to deter these snip-ers," said U.N. spokesman Major Rob Annink. "As of yesterday, patrols have been sent out on foot and have located a number of places where snipers are believed to

Mr. Karadzic's defiaut statement Saturday was deli-vered shortly after Bosnian Serb force averted the threat of further NATO air strikes by returning five heavy weapons including a tank they had seized from a U.N. and other war supplies.

compound in Sarajevo.

The commander of U.N. troops in Bosnia, Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, called in an air attack Friday to punish the Serbs for taking the weapons and had threatened further NATO raids if the arms were not given back by Saturday

The Western alliance's planes attacked the Serbs for the first time since April and one day after Mr. Karadzic's backer to the east, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, severed economic and political relations with the Bosnian Serbs.

The international community has threatened to punish Serbia with tougher sanctions because of the Bosnian Serbs' continued refusal to accept the latest peace plan, drawn up by the United States, Britain, France, Ger-many and Russia.

With the Yugoslav eco-nomy on its knees and winter looming, Mr. Milosevic is ancious to avoid any tightening

of the two-year-old embargo.

As hundreds of loaded trucks were turned back at the Serbian-Bosnian border, Mr. Karadzic acknowledged that he must do without Bel-

offensives against us and NATO found it easier to have to grow up to be separate from our mother and to shoot at us." be older an adult and we

have to fight. Now we are

totally, totally alone, only God is with us," Mr. Karad-

He was referring to Serbia

which had armed and fi-

nanced the Bosnian Serbs in

their 28-month war against Bosnia's Muslim-led govern-ment after the former Yugos-

lav Republic's independence. Mr. Karadzic ordered local

authorities to mobilise a com-

pulsory workforce to include

all those of working age in

order to compensate for the

blockade imposed by rump Yugoslavia — Serbia and

"Sanctions are unacceptable and understand that Yugoslavia

cannot support us any longer and cannot follows as in our

fight for freedom and our own state," Mr. Karadzic

stand the measures that are

even tougher and stronger

than those the international

community has applied

against Serbia and Mon-

tenegro," he said.

"All our enemies are encouraged now. Muslims and Croats have launched new

But we cannot under-

zic told Renters.

Bosnian Serbs said Muslim forces were on the offensive around Olovo, Vares, Doboj, Majevica, Ozren, Breko and Zvornik.

Maj. Annink said the Bos-nian Muslim-led army, with the help of Bosman Croat forces, had gained 30 per cent of the Serb-held Brgule area south of Vares in central Bos-

Momeilo Krajisnik, the Bosnian Serb parliament's speaker, said the assembly was expected to meet again in the next two days and could declare a state of war and a full mobilisation.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic has called on the Bosnian Serb people to defy their authorities as they move toward a general mobilisation in the war, Sarajevo Radio

The Bosnian collective presidency Saturday called on Serbs in Serb-held areas of the republic to choose peace. "All of you who did not dirty your hands with the blood of the innocent, defy those who push you to further war and suffering," the presidency said in a state-



Sect leader vows to return to Malaysia

died along with some 80

others in a shootout with

U.S. federal agents and ensuing fire in Waco, Texas.

If we have to break up

their communes, we will do that," Mr. Mahathir said.

257 schools the sect operates in Malaysia, and forbids peo-

ple to own, print or sell the

group's audio or video casset-tes, the 64 books Mr. Ashaari

has published or an abundance of other Al Arqam literature.

group's many husinesses, owned by individual mem-

bers, to stop using the Al Argam brand name.

Several state governments have announced they will

shut down some of the sect's

48 fslamie communes in

Al Arqam press spokes-man Rody Mohammad said life was continuing normally

at the group's main commune

in a Knala Lumpur suborb.

the kindergarten and primary

school. The mini-market and

book store were also operat-

Children were attending

It would also require the

The ban would shut down

TOY FOR CHILDREN: U.S. popular

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — The leader of a messianic Islamic sect outlawed by the

government has vowed to re-turn to Malaysia "as soon as

possible", the Star newspap-

er reported Sunday.
"I will return home to face
the prime minister," Al Arquam leader Ashaari Moham-

mad told the newspaper in an interview in Jordan's capital,

Malaysia Friday announced a sweeping ban on the sect, which claims 100,000 followers in Malaysia

and many more elsewhere.

Malaysian religious authorities say the mystical Sufi sect teaches a "deviationist"

Among the dozen reasons

iven by the National Fatwah

Council for banning the sect,

founded in 1968, was Mr.

Ashaari's claim to have had a

dialogue with the Prophet

statements the prime minister

brand of Islam.

Mohammad.

Amman.

Marie Presicy-Jackson pose with Hungarian will feature him as a freedom fighter who midget Misa (centre) at the bed of an unidenti-fied child at the Helm Pal Hospital for Chil-photo)

Police Inspector General Rahim Noor said police would start enforcing the ban

once the decree is gazetted by the various state govern ments, a process that could take a week or two.

Mr. Rahim told a news conference Saturday the au-thorities would "go to any length" to ensure public safe-

Mr. Ashaari appealed to his followers in Malaysia to

Mr. Ashaari left Thailand

for Jordan on July 25 after Thai authorities declined to

renew his visa. He has lived

in self-imposed exile in Thai-

land since 1988, when his

teachings were first banned in

Indonesia, Singapore and

Branci have barred him from

visiting after the sect aroused

security concerns in South

Three Al Argam members,

Malaysia.

East Asia.

calm, the Star

kill kidnapped foreigners

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodia's outlawed Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction has threatened to kill Westerners whose countries provide military support to the Phnom Penh government, re-bel radio said Sunday.

"If the United States, Australia and France are waging war to kill Cambodians, then Americans, Australians and French will also be killed or wounded." Khmer Rouge Radio said in a report monitoted by the British Broadcasting Corporation. "This means that if you

play with fire, your head will get burnt."

The U.S. and France have provided "non-lethal" military assistance to the resource-strapped Cambodian army, while Australia has offered to pay for a naval maintenance facility and national communications network for the armed forces.

A Western diplomatie source told Reuters it was unlikely the threat of violence would affect negotiations to free three Western tourists being beld by the insurgents in southern Kam-

pot province.
"I don't think that (radio report) changes the situation," he said.

Negotiations are underway for the release of three men taken hostage during a July 26 train ambush - Mark Slater, 28, from Corby in Northamptonshire, Britain Jean-Michel Braquet, 28, from Nice, France and David Wilson, 29, from Melbourne, Australia.

A letter to government authorities allegedly written by the Khmer Rouge commander holding the three men, dated July 31 and seen by reporters Sunday, contained an implied threat if a ransom demand is not paid.

"If this case is solved quickly I will wait for the ransom. If it takes so long, 1 will send them to the Thai border," said the letter, signed "army of National Democratic Kampuchea commander.

The NADK is the official name of the Khmer Rouge The reference to "send them to the Thai horder" is a euphemism for killing the hostage, said sources closely involved in earlier efforts to free Western hostages.

A ransom of gold worth approximately \$46,000 was being sought for each hostage, the letter said. ft also requested five "rado" brane watches, a gold-plated timepiece popular with Cambo-

A senior Cambodian gov ernment official said Mr. Slater, the British hostage, had fallen ill last week. He was known to be suffering from dysentery contracted n earlier travels through fudia, his friends said. The government said Wil-

son was also ill from the primitive conditions of the jungle camp where the bostages are being beld at Vine Mountain, about 150 kilometres south of Phnom Penh.

All three men have been forced to labour in swampy fields, planting rice and

building dikes. A consignment of antimalarial medicine and antibiotics was sent to the guerri!la camp but there has been no confirmation it was received.

Three other Westerners, two Britons and an Australian, taken in April in southem Sihanoukville province by gunmen believed to be Khmer Rouge are now feared dead.

The outlawed Maoist faction, responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians during a 1970s reign of terror, continues to reject national reconciliation and wage a low-level guerrilla war in support of its own "provisional government" established last month.

Khmer Rouge threaten to AIDS conference opens as Asian cases explode

YOKOHAMA, Japan (R) — A dramatic increase in Asian AIDS cases and lack of progress in finding a cure overshadowed Sunday's opening session of the 10th international conference on the disease.

The air of pessimism could increase further Monday when French researchers are expected to report that billions of dollars have been wasted on research into an AIDS drug because scientists have misnaderstood the The London Sunday Tele-

graph reported that Professor Jean-Marie Andrieu and his team at the University of Paris will tell the Yokohama conference that existing cheaper drugs may be effective in halting progress of the

Until now, most treatments have been aimed at boosting the immune system. But the telegraph said Prof. Andrieu's team had found evidence that doctors should instead be prescribing drugs to suppress the immune sys-

The newspaper said Prof. AIDS."

Ernesto Samper, an econom-

ist who wants to soften the

pain of free market reforms.

takes power Sunday as presi-

election tarnished by allega-

helped him finance a victory.

Samper, 44, won a narrow

triumph in a runoff ballot on

June 19 but his celebrations

were immediately oversha-

dowed by the release of tape recordings in which two of

the country's most powerful drug lords, Miguel and Gil-

berto Rodriguez Oreinela,

were heard to discuss a dona-

tion of more than \$3 million

to his Liberal Party cam-

Mr. Samper admitted that

Colombia's wealthy and

powerful cocaine traffickers had offered money to his

campaign, as well as to his

Mr. Samper said his only

contact with drugs traffickers was when two of their hired

guns tried to assassinate him

at Bogota Airport in March

1989, an attack that almost

killed him and left four bul-

The cassettes are being investigated by the Colombian

prosecutor-general's office,

so far without results. Local

officials say that although

they strongly suggest that traffickers offered money to

Mr. Samper's campaign, they

do not provide conclusive

evidence that any cash was

The "narco-cassette" scan-

dal caused deep misgivings in Washington and diplomats

say that while the Clinton

administration appears to

have given Mr. Samper the

benefit of the doubt for now,

be will be under pressure to produce early results in the

war on the cocaine traffick-

Despite the killing by

police last December of Medellin cocaine king Pablo

were rejected.

lets in his body.

New Colombian president

hit by drug allegations

Andrica would reveal the results of a pilot study in which 27 volunteers who had contracted the AIDS virus were given the immunosuppressant drug Cyclosporin.

Before taking the drug their immune systems were in decline but during the trial period not one patient de-veloped full-blown AIDS.

A study published earlier this year showed that AZT, a drug that had been one of the biggest hopes in the fight against the disease, did not slow down the onset of AIDS in people infected with HIV, as had been thought.

However, it may be able to stop the transmission of HIV from mother to child, offer-The Star quoted the 57-year-old Ashaari as saying he would sue Mr. Mahathir over ing hope for millions of infected women of childbearing age. has made about him and Al

Argam. Mr. Mahathir, in remarks Professor Yuichi Shiokawa, chairman of the conference organising committee, told Sunday's opening cere-mony: "We should look squarely at the reality that we have not yet developed an effective drug or vaccine for

including a Sessions Court judge, filed suit against the government's Islamic Affairs Office Friday saying the gov-ernment has falsely accused He said the movethe sect of maintaining a to reporters Friday, comment would not comply with squad of "suicide warriors" pared Mr. Ashaari with cult the ban, but would not put up figures like Branch Davidian any physical resistance to the Thailand has denied the

Malaysia.

SAN CRISTOBAL DE LAS transfer its proceedings to territory held by guerrillas of the Zapatista National Liby Mayan peasant guerrillas that aims to lay the groundwork for democratic reform in Mexico began Saturday in this elegant colonial city in the southern state of

Chiapas.
Several thousand delegates representing indigenous, grass-roots and popular organisations from around Mexico convened the

SEATTLE (R) - More than

22,500 fitefighters gained ground on wildfires in the

west as a cold front blowing

in from the Pacific slowed many blazes, fire officials said Saturday.

to bring little or no rain to

dampen the tinder-dry west-

ern forests, said Charlene Browning of the National In-teragency Fire Centre. "Wildfire activity is ex-

pected to continue due to fire conditions," Ms. Browning

More than 22,500 men and

women, including 5,600 U.S. army, marine and National

Guard troops, are deployed

to fight 39 major fires and

hundreds of smaller blazes in

eight Western states, Ms.

The major fires alone in-

volved an estimated 325,000

acres (131,500 hectares) of timber and range land in Ore-

gou, Washington, Idaho, Montana, California, Utah,

Nevada and Arizona, Mr.

In Washington state, de-

spite brisk winds fire lines

have held around two major

fires, the 119,000-aere

(48,000-hectare) Tyee fire

near the town of Chelan and the 29,000-aere (11,700-

hectare) Hatchery Fire Com-

plex in the mountains above

the small town of Leaven-

Over the past two weeks,

the two fires have forced

hundreds of people to fice

their homes, destroyed 37

bouses and more than 75

other structures, and closed

told Reuters.

Browning said.

Browning said.

worth.

But the front was expected

beration Army.

The self-styled Zapatista rebels, who rose up in arms on Jan. 1 to demand democratic, legal and land reform, called the convention to help create a broad-based civilian movement to push for greater democracy and fight any attempts at fraud in upcoming presidential elections.

Delegates disenssed a

were needed in Mexico, in-cluding: Constitutional reform, new election laws, an

The ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) has governed Mexico for 65 years without interruption, and Zapatistas have described its hold on power as one of the main reasons for their uprising.

leader David Koresh, who authorities, either. accusation. Mexican rebels to hold democratic convention

"national democratic conven-tion," which Sunday will

range of reforms they said

end to corruption among public servants, and the severing of links between the Mexican state and any one political party.

U.S. firefighters gain on wildfires

Sri Lanka's hinterland gears for landmark poll

MATARA, Sri Lanka (AFP) - A saffron-robed Buddhist monk preaching antigovernment rhetoric in this coastal town compounds the worries of Sri Lanka's ruling party in the runup to a crucial

Athuraliye Ratne, 31, has a small following for his leftist Janatha Mithuro, or People's Friends, but has already proved a nuisance to the governing United National Party (UNP) which lost a local election here in March.

"We want a new era. We need independence and freedom. We are saying don't vote for the UNP," Mr. Rame said at his small abode last week shortly after applying for a permit to use loud speakers to carry bis message further.

Supporters of the main opposition People's Alliance (PA) have more man power to go door-to-door lobbying for their candidates contesting the Aug. 16 general elec-tions to the 225-member

national parliament. PA candidate and former MP. Mangla Samaraweera says vociferous pressure a change," he said.

groups like Janatha Mithuro indirectly help the opposi-tion. But such radicals are also raising expectations of young voters to dizzy heights.

"Victory is easy. Voters are sending us to parliament with huge expectations. We will have to deliver within the first year and that is not going to be that easy," said Mr. Samaraweera, 37, while on his campaign. Hundreds of young nnem-

ployed men and women gather at his home here every morning, sip tea and read newspapers while waiting to run errands, distribute leaflets and put up posters.

Mr. Samaraweera has been a human rights campaigner and documented some 4,000 cases of disappearances during the government's crack down here of the Sinhalese People's Liberation Front or the JVP between 1988 and

"Human rights is no longer an issue here. It is not the cost of living or the (separatist Tamil guerrilla) war in the northeast. The main issues are no longer issues. People have had enough. They want

BOGOTA, Colombia (R) — Escobar, anti-orug agents say the flood of narcotics out of Colombia to the United States and Europe continues as strongly as ever, led by traffickers based in and dent of Colombia after an around the southwestern city tions that drug traffickers

Police raids against the Cali kingpins have been largely unsuccessful and gov-ernment officials privately acknowledge that one of the main problems has been the corruption of the security forces by the cartels. Earlier this week, the de-

puty commander of Cali Police and 16 senior colleagues were sacked for allegedly taking bribes from drug traffickers. A day earlier, 21 police accused of helping drug couriers smug-gle narcotics onto planes were removed from their posts at Bogota's internationairport. conservative rival, But, he insisted that their overtures

Mr. Samper inherits from his popular predecessor Cesar Gaviria a liberalised economy growing at around five per cent a year and poised for an oil boom as a giant new oilfield in the eastern plains gradually comes on stream.

Mr. Gaviria is barred by the constitution from seeking re-election and was elected earlier this year the secretarygeneral of the Organisation of American States (OAS) in Washington, a post he will take up later this month.

Analysts credit him with a notable economic reform but point out that the growth has been unevenly spread. The cities and the middle classes have benefited most but the poor and those in rural areas have been hard hit by the pruning of the state and the hlast of foreign competition.

Although Mr. Samper is

from the same party as Gaviria, he is further to the left and his campaign pledges in-cluded promises to create 1.5 million new jobs, boost social spending and use subsidies to ease the pain for farmers and some industries.



A group of firefighters from Arkansas works to establish a fire line near a home threatened by the wildfire near Chelan, Washington. The fires have burned more than 175,000 acres in Washington and damaged at least 37 homes (AFP photo)

major state highways. Firefighters were being pulled off the Tyee and Hatchery fires for reassignment to smaller fires in the northwest, many of which were growing rapidly, said Chris Strebig, a spokesman

for the multi-agency coordinating centre.
In Washington and Oregon

together, fires involving more than 278,000 acres (112,500 hectares) continued to burn uncontrolled, Mr. Strebig

I'm leaving, says Peru's first lady

LIMA (AFP) — Peru's first lady has moved out of the presidential palace after Congress passed a law effectively barring her from running for political office, sources close to her said Saturday. Susana Higuchi de Fujimori, whose marriage to President Alberto Fujimori has been widely rumoured to be rocky, might be weighing a divorce and a political career of her own. observers said. The president is expected to seek reelection next year. The first lady has criticised him publicly, saying social concerns must be a higher priority in a country in which the majority of people live below the poverty line. Congress, which is controlled by lawmakers loyal to the president, passed a law barring the spouse and relatives of the Peruvian president from running for the presidency, vice presidency or Cougress itself. The first lady, who has moved into a friend's home in Lima with a tight official security contin-gent in tow, officially has-questioned the constitu-tionality of the law. Several constitutional experts have sided with her. But after Congress, the attorney gener al's office and the national electoral board rejected her petitions to have the law reconsidered, the first lady packed up and move out.

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Cuba

Jackson brings gifts to Hungairan children

BUDAPEST (AFP) -

Walking from bed to bed in the Budapest hospital, allow-

ing the young patients to reach out and touch him, Michael Jackson appeared indeed to be "redeeming Eastern Europe," as in the title of his next album. The pop star and his wife Lisa-Marie Presley handed out dolls and dinosaur toys to children in the Pal Heim Hospital in the Pest district of the Hungarian capital, attracting the kind of fervour more often associated with royalty. With his braid and epaulettes and his customary dark hat, Jackson received a rapturous wel-come from all but a few tots disconcerted by his dark glas-ses. Presley, daughter of the legendary "king" of rock and roll Elvis Presley, was mak-ing her first public appear-ance with her husband since ance with her husband since marriage last Monday. The couple were greeted at the hospital entrance by 200 fans who bad been standing in the sweltering heat for up to six hours for the opportunity to gaze adoringly at their idol — or at the backs of his bodygnards — and scream "Michael! Michael!" A similar scenario was enacted at the Bethesda Hospital, also in Pest, where some of the fans, including one who had travelled from the Austrian capital Vienna, had adopted a Jacksonsque hairstyle and dressed and made themselves up to resemble their hero. After the two hour-long hospital visits the couple retired to the Kempinski Hotel in Deak Square, in the centre of the city, and did not reap-pear. Jackson is making a three-day visit to Budapest to film a video for his forthcoming album entitled Redeeming Eastern Europe. The video is to be filmed Sunday in the Hungarian royal castle in the Buda Hills and on Andrassy Avenue. Jackson's agents have recruited young people to appear in the video

ership, "save" Budapest by driving out Soviet troops. Billy Idol leaves hospital after overdose

as members of a peace force

who, under Jackson's lead-

LOS ANGELES (R) -Rock star Billy Idol, who has battled addictions to heroin and painkilling drugs, was released from a hospital Saturday after an apparent overdose that had put him in critical condition, authorities said. A spokeswoman for Saint Joseph Medical Centre in Burbank said Idol, 38, was admitted in critical condition Friday night and his condi-tion had been upgraded to fair and stable by Saturday morning. Idol's publicist, Ellen Zoe Golden, said fdol was released shortly after noon pdt (4:00 p.m. edt) (1900 GMT). "He's been released. He's on his way to rest and recover," she said. Ms. Golden said she believed that the British punk rocker had overdosed on drugs but could not provide details. Fire Department officials said paramedics took Idol to the hospital after being called to his home on reports of a drug overdose.

Peru's fire ace after Corlaw effection law effectively m running for sources close urday Susana jimori, whose sident Alber s been widely rocky rocky, might divorce and a of her own. The president ek teelection first lady has hlicly saying must be n a country in nty of people poverty line is controlled loyal to the

d a law bar. and relatives un president or the presesidency or The first noved into a Lima with a urity continfficially has e constitulaw Several xperts have But after orney genera the national rejected her

the lew refirst lady move out. ings gairan (AFP) d to bed in pital, allowpatients to touch him. ppeared inming East-

the title of he pop star Marie Predolls and children in pital in the Hungarian the kind of en associ-With his tes and his it. Jackson Irous wea few tots dark glas nter of the of rock and was makic appearcand since t of their

aday. The ed at the y 200 fans fing in the up to six arunity 10 eir idol his bodyscream " A siminacted at rital, also ne of the who had Ausman i adopted style and emselves eir hero. long hose retired Hotel in centre of ot reapnaking a dapest to orthcom-

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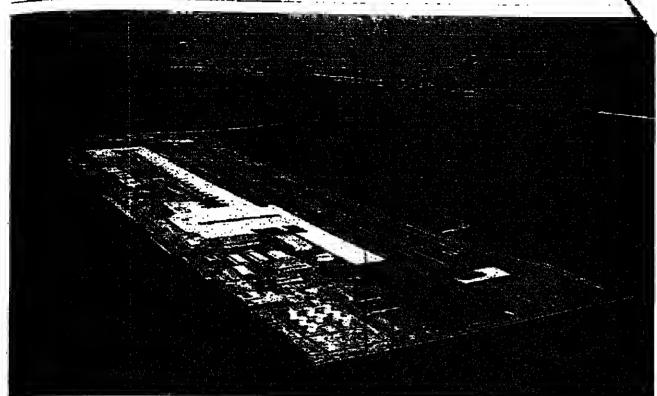
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OSAKA AIRPORT STILL SINKING: An aerial view of Japan's Kansai International Airport, the 511-hectare (1,262 acre) man-made island in Osaka Bay, located five

kilometres (three miles) off the coast. Osaka's new Kan International Airport is still sinking as the reclaimed land settles and is finally preparing to open on Sept. 4 (AFP

Castro admits some Cubans are unhappy

BOGOTA (Agencies) — Cuban leader Fidel Castro conceded Saturday that part of his Communist-ruled island's population was unhap-py but said the "immense majority" of Cuba's people were solidly behind him and his government despite recent unrest. Mr. Castro was asked by

reporters on arrival at Bogota Airport for Colombia's presidential inauguration Sunday of Ernesto Samper about clasbes Friday between stone-throwing protesters and Cuban police in Havana. The incidents were de-scribed by some Colombian

media as the most serious protests against Mr. Castro's Communist government since the 1959 revolution that brought him to power. "We are not happy with

the difficulties and we fight against them and we make progress but we really are going through a difficult moment and it's true that there is what you are calling dissatisfaction, discontent in a. part of the population," Mr.

"But we must also take into account an immense patriotism in the immense majority of the population which understands the causes of the problems which we have and which is firm in its defence of the fatherland, the revolution and socialism."

Mr. Castro has repeatedly blamed the severe econome crisis of his island and its food shortages on the United States trade embargo against

He is due to return to Cuba late Sunday after attending the inauguration of Mr. Samper, who has staunchly defended Colombia's decision last year to re-establish diplomatie relations with Havana and wants to strengthen ties between the two

OMAGH, Northern Ireland

(R) — Suspected Protestant

guerrillas shot and killed a

pregnant Roman Catholics

mother of five in her bed-

room overnight, police said

The woman, 38, was killed

when gummen, believed by

police to be from one of the

extreme Protestant groups loyal to British rule in North-

ern Ireland, broke into her

force their way through the

back door and had got out of

bed," said a police spokes-

er, said he found it incompre-

hensible Mr. Kohl should

even toy with the SPD.

"After all, the (Kohl) has

laid out his position, that he

wants to continue the coali-

tion with the FDP and that

from his point of view, it can

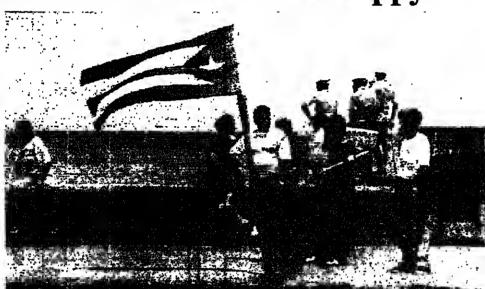
be achieved," Mr. Kinkel

"I do not understand why

De E speculatino, considerin

told German Radio.

"She evidently heard them



front of Havana, Cuba, after demonstrators third commuter ferry in 10 days had been smashed windows and hurled stones at police. bijacked by Cubans seeking to flee to the

Civilians armed with clubs guard the water- The riots started in response to news that a hijacked by Cubans seeking to flee to the United States (AFP photo)

Meanwhile, police and Communist Party militants guarded the Havana waterfront after a rare show of political unrest in Cuba, sparked by a wave of re-

President Castro gave no figures on tho damages cansed by the melee in which thousands of antigovernment demonstrators battled police with sticks and stones Friday and looted

The Mexican government news agency Notimex said the crowd was drawn to the harbour Friday by reports that fleeing Cubans had hijacked a ferry for the fourth time in two weeks.

Notimex said there were nnmerous ininries and arrests, and among those arrested were several people who hijacked the ferryboat

ber a number of times in the.

Her children, all under the

age of eight, were in the

house hut were unburt. A

17-month-old boy was in a

cot by her bed.
Police said the woman's husband came bome a few

hours after the attack to find

her dead and their children

distranght. Security sources

said he had once been impris-

oned for possessing arms and

may have been the intended

target of the gunmen.
The woman's death brings

to 52 the number of people

killed in political and secta-

bedroom.'

News reports said two policemen were killed during that hijack. The Baragua ran out of fuel about 11 miles (17 kms) off the Cuban coast and back to the island by patrol boats.

Fernando Rojas of the Miami-based Cuban American National Foundacion spoke Saturday to a dissident in Cuba who did not want to be identified.

"The word that we've been getting is things are calmer but there's a lot of people milling around," the dissident said. "There's a very very heavy police presence. We heard from one of the dissidents that the government kept the lights on all

throughout the night." So far this year, nearly 5,000 Cubans have made it to

Friday, the outlawed Protes-

tant Ülster Volunteer Force

killed a man it said was an

IRA informer. The IRA de-

nied this.
'This was a savage, bar-

baric and totally unjustified

cold-blooded murder,"

another police spokesman said of the attack on the

A hnrned-out car was

found nearby, a trademark of

such attacks in which guerril-

las set fire to vehicles to

The murder was typical of

recent attacks by so-called

loyalist groups on "soft"

woman near Omagh.

destroy evidence.

Baragne Thursday. Author- Florida — 173 in just the first ities refused to give details. four days of Angust, the four days of Angust, the Coast Guard said in Miami, The Coast Guard said it picked up 75 Cubans Saturday from boats and rafts.

The demonstrators enough" before clashes began with police and the militants Friday, Notimex and witnesses said.

A Cuban who spoke with the Associated Press on condition of anonymity said some of the demonstrators were armed with pistols and fired shots while angry crowds stoned the Deanville Hotel on the waterfront.

Thousands of people supporting Castro rushed into the streets after hearing the shots, with clubs and steel rods," he said.

On Saturday, police and pro-government workers with sticks patrolled the harbourd area, closing streets to

their resistance to Anglo-

Irish peace initiatives and

their war against the Irish

Republican Army, which is fighting British rule.

Farlier the same evening

police in Belfast said a soldier

and a police officer were hurt

when suspected IRA guerril-

las fired a grenade of a check-

point near the centre of town.

are worried that each side of

the sectarian divide in North-

ern Ireland is stepping np violence to provoke a back-

last from the other in cynical

efforts to gain sympathy for

Security sources say they

throughout the night because they were scared of having the protests continue

Haiti expects U.S. invasion

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP) - Haiti's military chief Raoul Cedras said in an interview aired Saturday that a U.S. invasion was inevitable and predicted it would be bloody.

"I don't think that any arrangement can be made to avoid an invasion of Haiti," he said in an interview from the Haitian capital with CNN

"It has been decided to invade and we are awaiting this moment," Gen. Cedras said, adding: "We are getting ready. As soldiers we have sworn to defend our coun-

try."
The United Nations approved a resolution Sunday giving the greenlight for a U.S.-led invasion of the Caribbean nation to force the military to step aside and reinstate ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"If they (the U.S. military) intervene, it will be bloodshed on both sides," Gen. Cedras said through an interpreter. "It will be to kill a lot of military and a lot of civilians also."

Several hundred civilians participated Saturday in training exercises with the Haitian army in preparation for an invasion. Most of them were members of the promilitary Civil Resistance Front.

Gen. Cedras said the crisis sparked by the 1991 coup which toppled Mr. Aristide could be resolved through negotiations, but added: "We would need much dialogue

and many exchanges."
He noted that there was support for holding new elections but would not say whether Mr. Aristide should. be allowed to run.

President Bill Clinton's special advisor on Haiti echoed Gen, Cedras, saying the United States and Haiti were on a collision course that could lead to the use of force.

William Gray ruled ont di-alogue with Haiti's military leaders except on one point: "When will you step down, what time, and where will

you go." As long as the military refused to step down and restore democracy, said Mr. Gray in an interview with CNN, "I believe we are on a collision that could lead to the use of force."

The White House has set no deadline for an invasion and continues to pursue a course of diplomatic and economic pressure, Mr. Gray said, "boping that the coup leaders come to their

A Time-CNN poll meanwhile showed a majority of people in the United States — 61 per cent — remains opposed to sending U.S. forces for an invasion, up from 52 per cent in June.

Gen. Cedras' resignation to an invasion was reflected in the hard line the militaryhacked government has taken since U.N. Security thorised military interven-

After imposing a state of siege Monday, the government announced Thursday that the Minister of Justice had begun legal proceedings to charge Mr. Ariside with

high treason. Mr. Aristide was accused of sending a letter on July 29 to U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali, which served as the basis for the Security Council resolution.

Colombia meanwhile closed its emhassy "tempor-arily," and Argentina sent its five diplomats and nine guards to the neighbouring Dominican Republic.

"Argentine Ambassador Carlos Carrasco has chosen to leave Port-Au-Prince because of the repeated death threats he received as Argentina's representative," a diplomage source said.

In Buenos Aires, Deputy Foreign Minister Fernando Petrella said Argentina was taking a wait-and-see stance

month and a balf for the solution to be found," Mr. Petrella said, adding that the U.N. resolution "really helps a peaceful settlement to be possible."

Haiti's government also has turned a deaf ear to a rising clamour of calls from local political leaders for a peaceful settlement of the crisis. _ - -- · ·

Leslic Mangait, a Christian Democrat who briefly served as president, contended that both camps were "irreconcilahle" and that the only way out was for both Mr. Aristide and Gen. Cedras to step

That view was echoed by the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Frantz Robert Monde, who said the resignaoon of both Mr. Aristide and Gen. Cedras was "the only consensus possible now."

But the likelihood of a

negodated solution appeared more distant as a last ditch diplomatic initiative by Venezuela has crumhled.



Haitian civilians, receiving military training outside the military headquarters in downtown Port-Au-Prince, move through the grass at a

local park. Thousands of civilians received military instruction in an effort hy the Haltian military to prepare for a possible U.S. invasion

Indian politicians ready for end to standoff

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao and senior opposition leaders were soon expected to end a bitter confrontation over a \$1.28 hillion hanking scandal, parliamentarians said Sunday.

They said Mr. Rao, ending his puhie aloofness over an issue that has disrupted India's parliament for two weeks, now sought a face-saving formula acceptable to both

The opposition, which first paralysed parliament and then boycotted proceedings, has accused Mr. Rao of sbielding several senior ministers blamed in a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) report on the 1992 scandal by rejecting its key findings.

Bankers and brokers were accused of collusion in siphoning off money illegally from the inter-bank market in government securities to invest on the booming Bombay Stock Market.

Rao to withdraw an action taken report — the govern-ment's response to the JPC's findings — from parliament. Finance Minister Manmohan Singh offered Friday to delete words which might have given offence and apologise. Opposition leaders promptly rejected Mr. Singh's offer.

Deputies on both sides said Sunday Mr. Rao's formula on the crisis, yet to be made public, would go a little beyond Mr. Singh's apology.

Taken Report would be ideal," Chandulal Chandrakar, spokesman for the ruling Congress Party said. "We expect the opposition to end their boycott by Tuesday," he added confidently.

their campaign was in danger of running out of steam if the government did not respond quickly. Analysts said Mr. Rao was also unhappy with a parlia-

ment without an opposition. Lawmakers said Mr. Rao's meeting Saturday with Atal Behari Vajpayee, the chief opposition leader and deputy of the Hindu nationalist

for 3 to 4 atomic bombs SEOUL (Agencies) - North mean it could have euongh

Korea may possess enough plntonium for five more plntonium, the main ingredient for a nuclear weapon,

The United States and War, which left 2.5 million to build three or four nuclear warheads, a Scoul newspaper said Sunday.

The influential Chospn-Ilbo quoted an unidentified semor government official as saying the North had halted the operation of its fivemegawatt reactor at Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang, three times since 1989.

"The official said the stoppages were for 71 days in 1989, a month in 1990 and 50 days in 1991.

"In this context, North Korea is presumed to have extracted 22 to 27 kilograms of plutonium," Chosun quoted the official as saying. The amount is enough to produce three or four atomic

Earlier this year, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said there was a better tha ever chance the North had extracted enough plutonium from the Yongbyon reactor in 1989 to build at least one

nuclear weapon. Sunday's claims marked the firt time a South Korean government official had said North Korea also haited the operation of the Yongbyon reactor in 1990 and 1991, the

Official comment on the news report was not available.

Seoul is known to have relied heavily on information provided by Washington re-garding the North's nuclear capability.

North Korea adjourned crucial talks in Geneva on Pvongyang's nuclear programme until Monday after one day of resumed negotiations Friday. Meanwhile South Korea police raided a local pub-

lishing house Sunday and seized 15,000 copies of a North Korean-published autobiography of the North's late leader Kim Il Sung. The police raid was part of

an ongoing crackdown on pro-North Korean activities that has affected mostly radical student groups. Police said they were look-

ing for Lee Hee-Kun, 33, president of Kasowon, a local publishing house, on charges of attempting to publish the four-volume Kim Il Sung memoir in the South. Puhlishing material from

North Korea without govern-ment permission is illegal in Sonth Korea under strict national security laws. The two nations have been bitter rivals since the peninsula was divided after World War II into the North and the South. Mr. Kim's autobiography

was published by an official North Korean publishing house and has been secretly distributed among radical Sonth Korean students as propaganda, intelligence officials said.

The anti-North Korean crackdown started last month after some radical students eulogised Mr. Kim, who died July g of heart failure, as a national leader who led the formerly unified Korea to independence from Japanese colonial rule in 1910-1945.

Most South Koreans revile people dead in both Koreas. Students and dissident

groups made no immediate response to Sunday's police raid, hut they have been accusing the government of using old ideological fears to suppress student movements which are often antigovernment and ano-U.S.

The North's official media has recently turned up vitriolic criocism on the Seoul government for failing to show condolences over Mr. Kim's death. Meanwhile, a man claim-

ing to be a North Korean lumbejack defected to South Korea from Siberia aboard a Russian freighter that arrived in the southern port of Pusan Sunday, government intelligence official said.

The agency for National Security Planning, the government's main spy agency, said An Chung Hak, 36, was found suffering from de-hydracion in the bottom of the Russian freighter carrying

He was immediately admitted to a hospital for treatment, they said.

Mr. An became the third North Korean to defect to the capitalist South since Kim II Sung's death on July g and the 28th so far this year. About 15,000 North Ko-

rean loggers are reportedly working in Siberia under contracts with Russia. Seoul officials say up to 170 loggers have escaped, hoping to defect to South Korea.

Northern defectors reported acute food and fuel shortages in their country.

Taiwan, China reach agreement

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwan and China ended eight days of talks with an agreement Sun-day to repatriate hijackers. breaking a deadlock that marred previous meetings, and hailed the accord as a major breakthrough.

Leaders of the two delegations to the sixth round of talks in the laborious process of detente between the two rival Chinese governments said the agreement would be signed at a later meeting between more senior officials.

Exchange Foundation (SEF), which handles links with

"You can say there has been a major breakthrough in all the three main issues in the talks," said Chiao Jen-Ho, secretary general of Taiwan's quasi-official Straits

Beijing in the absence of official ties. "What is important is that

we have reached consensus,

whether we sign sooner ot later is not important," Mr. Chiao told a joint news conference after four days of talks with Tang Shuhei, secretary general of China's Association for Relations Across the Taiwan Straits (ARATS).

The talks between the private representatives of the two governments were preceded by four days of technical level meeongs.

"Mr. Tang was very sin-cere and responsible," Mr. Chiao said of the highest ranking Chinese official to visit Taiwan since the Nacionalists fled to Taiwan and banned official contact

with Beijing after losing the Chinese Civil War in 1949.

The breakthrough came when China conceded Taiwan's demand it had the right to exclude some hijackers from repatriation if it determines they have valid political or religious motives. China had said Taiwan did not have the legal authority to make such a decision.

Otherwise, hijackers will now be sent hack after compleoon of the investigation

Taiwan is holding 16 mainland Chinese asylum-seekers who have hijacked 12 civilian Chinese airliners to the island since April, 1993. The two sides also agreed to apply the repatriation procedure to other criminals and suspects,

man in Omagh, where the attack took place. "They shot rian violence this year. On Cathobe targets as part of their respective causes. Kinkel criticises Kohl for German coalition talk

Guerrillas kill pregnant Catholic in N. Ireland

other things at a time when BONN (R) - Klau Kinkel, there is really no need for it." leader of Germany's poll-battered liberal Free Demo-Both allies and opponents crats (FDP), Sunday criticised Chancellor Helmut of the veteran chancellor have been left confused by Mr. Kohl's unexpected re-Kohl for saying a grand coalimark that a grand coalition tion with their Social Demowas a theoretical possibility. cratic (SPD) rivals was a made earlier this week in a theoretical possibility. television interview while on The Free Democrats are

junior partners in Mr. Kohl's boliday in Austria. Although Kohl described coalition government, but the speculation sparked by his comments as "nonsense" they have been mauled in several regional elections this during the ensuing turmoil, his junior FDP coalition partyear. There is a general election in October. ners have reacted with some Mr. Kinkel, who is foreign minister as well as FDP lead-

nervousness. In the television interview." Kohl said the best outcome of the Oct. 16 parliamentary election was a continuation of the centreright government, but that 'all democratic parties" should in principle be pre-

pared to work together. "We aren't considering any other type of coalition," Mr. Kinkel said, adding that it the CDU can win in October

was Mr. Kohl who had put pressure on the FDP into clearly committing itself to the DCU.

"I am somewhat surprised, should voice such consideration."

Mr. Kinkel added: "Just imagine the criticism that would be directed at the FDP if we came out and said we could by all means imagine forming another kind of coalition.

CDU General Secretary Peter Hintze, anxious to quell talks about a CDU-SPD pact, of which there has only been one since World War II, has stressed Mr. Kohl's desire to emerge on Oct. 16 at the head of the same coalition as over the past 12 years. But that bas not prevented

the SPD from hailing Mr.

Kohl's remarks as an en-

dorsement for its suitability

to govern and as a sign the

chancellor does not believe

back voter's hearts and Mr. Kinkel said in the

liament

ble the FDP has suffered a loss of faith among voters because it had not distanced itself enough from the CDU. "But, with regard to the coming election, we will shar-pen (our profile)," he said. ning of the thaw.

The speculation bas been fuelled by the FDP's humiliating showing in European and local ballots this year, while opinion polls show the Liberals teetering on the edge of the five per cent hurdle needed to reenter par-In a surprisingly public dis-play of nerves, Mr. Kinkel

gates telling them the FDP was fighting for its life. The liberals, who won 11 per cent of the vote in the last elections in 1990, tried to sharpen their profile at a congress in June to try to win

recently wrote to party dele-

radio interview it was possi-

N.Korea may have plutonium

sides.

The opposition wants Mr.

"Something short of a total withdrawal of the Action

Opposition deputies said

Bharattya Janata Party (BJP), could be the begin-

CIA Director James Woolsey said in June that failure to halt the North's nuclear programme could

By Waleed Sadi

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Peace for all

LESS THAN two weeks after the signing of the Washington Declaration, Jordan and Israel are taking serious steps to implement agreements reached in the historic document. Telephone lines between the two countries are now operational, talks over opening Jordanian and Israeli airspace to civilian airlines seem to have reached an advanced stage and a crossing point between Aqaba and Eilat for third country nationals will be inaugurated today.

For some, the speed with which Jordan and Israel are moving towards reaching peace might seem a bit too overwhelming. Considering the decades of conflict between the two states, it is natural that some people feel this way about the new chapter that the Kingdom and Israel are opening. But it is also natural that the two states waste no time in solving all their conflicts for the common purpose of bringing about peace and stability to their region and peoples. In that sense, the speed is at least justified, at most

And by any serious standard, the road towards peace is still long and thorny.

That Jordan wants peace is a foregone conclusion. But so is the fact that the peace it seeks is a just, lasting and comprehensive one that can ensure to all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict their rights to their lands, water, security and sovereignty over their land and future.

That leaves the ball in the Israeli court, for it is the aggressor which is occupying Jordanian land and usurping Arab rights. Moreover, Israel is the party which has wasted the so many chances for peace offered by Arab countries over the years of conflict.

The talks over land and water rights that Jordan and Israel will resume tomorrow are a test ground for Israel's intentions. Jordan is entering the talks to secure its rights. The agenda it signed with the Jewish state last year is the yardstick against which Jordan will conduct the negotiations. Once, and not before, the issues on the agenda have been resolved, a peace treaty will be a subject of discussion.

Israel has to understand that and proceed with its talks accordingly. It should not be disillusioned to believe that the peace Jordan is pursuing is peace at any price.

Bul it will be naive to expect Israel to concede to the Kingdom's demands so willingly. History speaks against such an expectation. Israel has always tried to get away with everything. It will try that again in its coming talks with Jordan. Jordanian negotiators are aware of that and hence are their continued assertions that the negotiations are going to be difficult and long.

The crossing point that will open today in the south is a symbolic gesture of what peace could bring. It should therefore work as an incentive to the Israelis to help put relations in the region on the right track. Only third country nationals will be able to use the new crossing point. The objective is to have the borders open first and for all the people of the area, those who have paid dearly for the abnormal state of affairs that prevailed in the Middle East for so long. That could be a long way from happening. But it is not impossible to achieve if Israel works towards real and genuine peace.

That would entail movement on all tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations. The objective is clear: Peace for all. The way to achieve it is also clear: An Israeli withdrawal from occupied Jordanian, Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian iand and end to all forms of Israeli aggression against Arabs, their rights and their resources.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RAT daily Sunday said the Washington Declaration was the line separating peace and war, ending 46 years of the state of war between Jordan and Israel. The paper said in its editorial that the signing of this declaration July 25 should bave removed the obstacles impeding the progress of the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations. The inauguration of the border crossing post between the two sides in south Jordan tomorrow (Monday) comes in implementation of five steps endorsed by the Washington Declaration to get rid of the patrimony of war and is also considered part of Jordanian official measures taken to enhance mutual confidence with the Israelis, said the paper. It continued that what is taking place at the present time is not a termination of the negotiations process, but rather opening a new beginning for it. It said the Jordanian confidencefile a measures are ought to have provided the suitable Final to accelerate the negotiations. Now Israel should meet the Jordanian confidence-building measures with similar steps, and the acceleration of negotiations over land, borders and water will be a good step for Israel to prive its good will and its commitment to the Washington

Declaration, the paper said. It concluded by saying that

with the exception of the Israeli Knesset's approval of the

declaration and the Jewish state's pumping of water to Jordan, Tel Aviv is still slow in meeting Jordanian goodwill

gestures with similar steps.

Human Rights File

When individuals' rights conflict with laws and the state

CAN A country deny one of its people a passport if he does not report for military duty at a certain age. This human rights question came up recently before the Human Rights Committee (HRC) in Geneva when a complainant living ontside his country applied to renew his passport to his country's embassy where he is resident but was turned down because he did not report for military service on a specified date after having reaching the age that made him a conscript. The man in question raised his right under Article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR). This particular article reads, inter alia, as follows: "Everyone lawfully within the territory of a state shall, within that territory, have the right to liberty and freedom to choose his residence." This provision goes on to state that 'everyone shall be free to leave any country, including his

own."

Of course there is also the stipulation that the above mentioned rights shall be subject to law provided that such constraints "are necessary to protect national security, public order, public health or morals or the rights and freedoms of others." This seemingly benign burnan rights issue consumed much debate among the members of the Human Rights Committee who are charged with the mandate of interpreting the various provisions of the ICCPR What of interpreting the various provisions of the ICCPR. What complicated the consideration of this particular case was the fact that the man in question did not need a valid passport in order to return to his country. He wanted the passport for other reasons, including the right to leave the country where he is living for another foreign country where a valid passport would be necessary. The committee members were

not sure whether a state party may use the right to passport as an instrument to force conscripts to report for military duty. There was still a broad agreement among the 18member-expert group that military service is of course acceptable under the covenant provided that conscientious objectors are given alternative service to military service.

This particular issue did not arise as the complainant did not apply for an alternative military service. He simply wanted a passport to travel, not to his country but to other foreign lands. There was also a consensus among the members that the freedom to leave any country, including one's own, would necessarily mean that the plaintiff in this case has the right to a passport to leave any country where he happens to be residing at a particular time.

After a lengthy debate, the majority ruled for the state party provided that the deprivation of the passport of a conscript is of temporary duration. There was a strong minority view that saw otherwise and concluded that no state party may deploy the issuance or the no issuance of a passport in order to force a conscript to report for military duty.

It so happened that the right to a passport and therefore to travel came in conflict with the state's right to have military service especially if conscripts have alternative service should they object to military service for a religious or philosophical reason. This case also illustrated how difficult

can the discussions be on human rights issues.

Every law entails human rights dimensions and therefore, any right or duty can be adjudicated as a human rights issue

in its own right. The committee spends much of time considering such issues when there are complainants. The only condition is that such people may not address their complaints to the Human Rights Committee before exhausting domestic remedies. This in turn means that they have gone to court in their own country and appealed the court decision which they view as contrary to the terms of the covenant. They must also show that their case can be first declared admissible by presenting a prima facie case under the covenant. If the complaint is so obviously shallow and ill-founded it would be rejected as inadmissible. It is only after a certain communication is declared admissible that its ments can be adjudicated. If the complainant happens to be on death row and had already exhausted domestic remedies and then seeks the intervention of the committee, the committee is empowered to issue a temporary injunction against the carrying of the death sentence pending the adjudication of the case by the committee. Normally, countries abide by the decision of the committee but there are certain situations when state parties act defiantly. Recently, Trinidad and Tobago carried out an execution sentence in spite of a last minute intervention by the committee. The state party claimed in that instance that it did not receive the 11th hour order of the committee on time. As one can see and detect, there is never a dull moment in the committee. It is either a race with time or deep division among the members on important human rights issues. But is always worth our time we the members of this tribunal to dissect human rights matters and interpret the covenant for the international community.



Serb strongman moves against Bosnia Serbs

By Dan De Luce Reuter

BELGRADE - Yugosla-Bosnian Serb leaders marks a long-awaited showdown between Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and bis proteges in Bosnia whose fervent nationalism has ontgrown its appeal to Bel-

Facing tighter sanctions against his country, Mr. Milosevic reasons he must bring the Bosnian Serb leadership to heel or face unacceptable threats to his power at home from an economically beleaguered

If Mr. Milosevic prevails over Serb leaders who refuse to accept a peace plan for Bosnia that the Serbian president publicly supports it will be a bitter defeat for hardline Serb nationalists. diplomats and local analysts

But Mr. Milosevic's crackdown could spark a backlash from Serbs at home in sympathy for their brothers in Bosnia, who feel ahandoned by their long-time patron, and the loyalty of the Bosnian Serb army to their main supplier

The face-off has pitted Mr. Milosevic, an arch-sur-vivor in the Balkan political scene, against men he long backed to propagate the Bosnian war, led by Rado-van Karadzic, the Sarajevo psychiatrist turned political leader of the separatist

Authorities in rump Yugoslavia, comprising Serbia and Montenegro, said on Thursday they would cut all political and economic ties to the Bosnian Serbs in the first move by Beigrade to quell former allies who have outgrown their use.

Yugoslav border police halted hundreds of trucks on Friday trying to cross into Bosnia in a sign Mr. Milosevic meant to beed international requests to back threats with action.

Last May, Mr. Milosevic, criticising Bosnian Serbs for rejecting a previous peace plan, failed to fulfil a pledge to close the border with rebel Serb territory.

Now Mr. Milosevic is throwing his full weight behind his decision to remove Mr. Karadzic, Western diplomats said. The intention this time is

to get rid of Karadzic and to prosecute this to the end," one diplomat said. Mr. Milosevic's propaganda machine went into high gear on Thursday, as state-controlled television broadcast statements from a myriad of national and

regional officials speaking out for the peace plan and against the Bosnian Serb leaders. In a campaign clearly aimed at discrediting Bosnian Serh leader Radovan Karadzic, pro-government

media on Friday for the first time acknowledged the suffering of Sarajevo's civilians under rebel Serb shelling.

Politika, the main daily, and close to Mr. Milosevic, published an article castigating the Bosnian Serb chief.

"Once peace comes, the people cannot be led by the men who bombarded civitians in Sarajevo and those who, to the world's revulsion, promote their poetry over Sarajevo while the city was burning," the paper said.

Diplomats said Mr. Milosevic needed to achieve his goals quickly before narest hailt up among the Bosnian Serbs and prior to stricter economic sanctions threatened by big-power peace plan backers being approved by the U.N. Security Council.

Bosnian Serbs depend heavily on financial and military aid from Belgrade

military aid from Belgrade and if the borders stay sealed, Mr. Milosevic could deal them a serious blow. most local analysts said.

But rebel Serhs appeared intent on raising the stakes on Friday by taking an increasingly aggressive stance in Sarajevo to trigger a re-sponse from the Muslim-led Bosnian army or U.N. commanders that would embarrass Mr. Milosevic.

Bosnian Serb forces seized heavy weapons from a U.N.-guarded compound in defiance of a threat of NATO air strikes. Western diplomats said NATO retaliation might highlight Bosnian Serb isolation and undercut Mr. Milosevic's

An unknown factor in Mr. Milosevic's scheme is the powerful and uncompromising Bosnian Serb army commander Ratko Mladic, who has stayed silent during the escalating power struggle this week. Political insiders say Mr. Mladic, who bas pushed Mr. Karadzic into hardline positions in the past, is weighing his options.

Mr. Milosevic, blamed for starting the war in former Yugoslavia and who rose to power by whipping up nationalist fervour among Serbs, is now regarded as a traitor to the Serb cause by extreme nationalists, such as radical Vojislav Seselj.

There is sympathy for the Bosnian Serhs among ordinary Serbians, but analysts say Mr. Milosevic with his 80,000-strong police force, the backbone of his regime.

For students of Mr. Milosevic's career, his latest actions confirm his babit of discarding political rivals that threaten his claim to the throne of a future "He has an extreme para-

noia about his position as leader of Serbs," a Western

leading liberal, U.S .-

educated Education Minister

Ahmad Al Rubei, whom they

accuse of being anti-Islamist.

not want to overturn the ex-

isting order, merely make it

more Islamic. They want seg-

regation of men and women

in all schools and colleges, a

ban on bank interest charges,

strict oversight of media to

curb portrayals of women,

banning some commission in

The Islamists say they do

Politicians remind Bangladeshis of military rule

By Anis Ahmad

DHAKA — A damaging standoff in Bangladeshi politics is raising fears for the country's youthful democracy, with opposition politicians warning the army could feel encouraged to intervene as it has in the

Opposition members say the potential for intervention is due to the government's disregard of the opposition boycott of parment. Others say that if the boycott ended, the threat of intervention would recede.

"A continued boycott... will certainly lead to collapse of parliament and in-vite a third force," veteran politician and respected lawyer Kamal Hussain told a rally of his Gano Forum Party in northern district of

Pabna. The opposition bas for long been calling for early elections supervised by an interim government. The government bowever re-fuses to abolish itself and the opposition has boycotted parliament since February to try to force the government out.

Parliament has 330 members, of which the ruling Bangladesh National Party (BNP) holds 172. The BNP retains a quorum but the mpasse deprives it of credi-Fears of a so-called

'third force" were voiced recently by the opposition's chief whip in parliament, Mobammad Nasim, who said the government was conspiring to disrupt parhamentary democracy and transfer power to "evil A senior leader of the

main opposition party Awami League, Mr. Nasim hlamed the government for keeping the opposition out of parliament... as a ploy for handing over power. "If the fears come true,

the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party will have to account for this to the nation," be said.

Political analysts say there is no doubt that politicians are referring to the army, which ruled Bangladesh through almost 15 years of its 22-year existence. They say such rule can exist under a civilian guise through co-opted

politicians. "Whatever 'force' our politicians have in mind today is definitely the armed force," one Dhaka universi-

ty political scientist said. He said Bangladesbis. who have seen more military aprisings than elections, know as well as politicians that a third or evil force could only come from the barracks.

BNP sources dismiss fears of intervention, saying the opposition is trying to invoke unfounded fears. They are looking at every possibility to unseat the government," said one government leader, who de-clined to be identified.

Foreign diplomats in Dhaka said they feared any upheaval which could apset donors and destroy the country's efforts to stimulate foreign investment.

"Do you think the gov ernment will collapse? It will mean a major crisis for the country's nascent democracy," one Asian diplomat

"Unles both sides (government and opposition) agree, there will never be a free election and the stalemate will continue, maybe with some interval," said another diplomat. The diplomats said,

however, that the military was "highly tolerant of democracy. Ordinary Bangladeshis

who embraced democracy by voting in the 1991 poils that brought Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to power, fear the prospect of intervention.

"We want no more disruptions. I only hope our politicians would realise the gravity of the situation before it's too late," said a teacher at a government

Members of the military refused to comment. Military rule began in

Bangladesh after August 1975 when the country's first president. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was killed in a military coup, along with most members of his

LETTER

Who is to blame?

To the Editor:

WHEN WE read newspaper articles these days about the poor tawjihi results, we find that both the private schools and the public schools are blamed. Why don't we put the blame where it really lies, and that's with the examination itself. Basically the examination hasn't changed in the last 40 years. It still relies on memorisation as its main avenue for testing-Times have changed - most students do not bave the patience or the learning style required to memorise books

This "tawjihi-mania" causing schools to accept only those few students who can excel in the exam and to teach only for this outdated, subjective relic. This is not education. Let's stop blaming each other and making excuses for poor results. We must work together to bring education to the 20th Century before we reach the 21st

Dr. Sue Dahdah, Director, Abdul Hamid Sharaf School, Amman.

Signs of Islamic fervour abound in Kuwait they might suffer after death paigning to erode the influence of the government's

By Inal Ersan

Reuter KUWAIT — Foreign newspaper pictures of anyone scantily dressed bring down the wrath of Kuwaiti censors who dauh offending skin in black ink or rip out entire

the Muslim fundamentalist-Al Mujtamaa magazine, in an act of rigorous selfcensorship, set an altogether stricter standard in its July issue for its pictures of a group of women.

The women wore the shapeless head-to-toe black robe common in the Gulf. but in the original their faces were unveiled. In the published version only their eyes showed above blobs of ink. Signs of Islamist furvour

are part of everyday life in

the small oil-producing emi-rate, where Muslim fun-

damentalist MPs are cam-

paigning to create what they

call a fully Islamic society. The prestige of Kuwait's Islamists is high partly because of their role in civilian resistance to Iraq's 1990-91 occupation and reflects a rise in Muslim militancy through much of the Arab and Islamic world.

A man with a long beard receives donations for charities at one of bundreds of stalls set up by Islamists to seek support for the promotion of the religion in far corners of the world.

the man wears a short Arab robe instead of a long one normally worn in the Gulf to emplate what Islamists say was the way Prophet Mohammad dressed.

He also offers to give out tapes of ruligious surmons to anyone prepared to hand in their music cassettes in re-Women preachers tell fel-

low women about the torture

for not wearing headscarves and say conservative dress will help eradicate social ills. Some supermarkets have started to close at prayer time on the orders of fun-

damentalist managers, a step seen as a hardline interpretation of the Holy Koran. At one supermarket a man buying groceries dropped his shopping bag and left angrily when he learned he had to

wait while the cashiers prayed After a long day of work I have to wait for you to finish prayer. Those cashiers could have each prayed in turn," he shouted as he shoved his cart

Some Islamist electer say debt problems and economic slump are divine punishment for failure to implement Isla-

mic law. Islamists are also cam-

trade deals and creation of a public authority to encourage strict Islamic behaviour. The Islamist campaign is opposed by a diverse collecangrily into the casbiers' tion of liberals, Arab

nationalists, democrats and erists. They access Islamist MPs of advocating fundamentalism merely in the hope it will gain them votes from conservatives tribesmen at elections.

imprecedented international conference on the economic aspects of the Middle East peace process is to open in Morocco in October, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday.

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Mr. Peres announced the semmit on the Middle East and North Africa — the first to bring public and private sectors together in the region
— after holding talks with
U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher here.

"The next important occa-sion (in the Middle East) will be October 31, when an economic conference will take place io Casablaoea io Morocco, chaired by King Hassan II and supported by president Boris Yeltsin of-Russia and Bill Clinton of the United States," Mr. Peres

He said as many as 100 political leaders would join private business representa- various relationships" in the tives for the two-day conference, which will end on Nov.

"It will he the first time in the history of the Middle East that an organised economic effort supported both by governments and private enterprises, market economy and political thinking, will match together to open a new situation" in the region, Mr. Peres

Public and private sector representatives would discuss regional development and try to draw up joint projects in the realms of banking, tour-ism, water resources and financial markets, a U.S. official added.

Mr. Christopher, who arrived in the Middle East on Saturday for a new peace mission, said he and Mr. Peres "resolved we would make certain to try and keep in mind economic aspects of

region.
The political steps forward of course are crucial, but agreements will only be cemented and effective when we have the economic aspect as well."

A senior U.S. official said the North Africa and Middle East Economic Summit, an initiative of the World Economic Forum, was "without recedent."

This conference is designed to attract those destrous of making peace in the Middle East. Those who are not interested or trying to undermine the peace process are simply not going to be invited," the official said.

Mr. Christopher is hoping to nail down peace between Israel and Jordan and bring Syria closer to talks with the Jewish state during his third regional tour in as many



of eight political parties (see stories on pages one and 12) (Petra photo) MAJALI MEETS OPPOSITION: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Sunday meets with the secretaries-general

Southern Yemeni leader says dialogue should go on

CAIRO (Agencies) — For-mer South Yemeni Prime reorganise themselves. "If they are serious they should Minister Haidar Abu Bakr Al Attas left Cairo for Damascus on Sunday and said a north-south dialogue should

He told reporters at Cairo airport he was going to a meeting of Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) leaders on Monday to discuss the latest developments in a dialogue between the Sanaa government and those who led the unsuccessful secessiooist movement in the south between May and July.

The Sanaa government wants Mr. Attas and other southern leaders extradited for trial and has said that a meeting in Geneva last month, attended by Mr. Artas, did not constitute talks with its defeated southern

Eight YSP members opened talks in Damascus on Saturday. Mohammad Abdo Shotfah, former Yemeni ambassador to Syria who was sacked by the Sanaa government, told Reuters the memwould draw up an agenda for a bigger meeting to discuss the party's future plans

after the two-month war in In Sanaa, President Ali Abdullah Salch on Saturday asked the YSP to dismiss its secessionist leaders in what political sources said was a toughening of his attitude to-

wards his southern foes. . In a speech at Ebb, in central Yemen, Mr. Saleb adopt a decision dismissing those who announced the separation declaration," be

added. Former Yemeoi Vice-President and leader of the YSP Ali Salem Al Beidh declared a breakaway state on May 21. It collapsed when Sanaa's forces captured Aden, capital of the secessionist state, on July 7 after a two-month civil war. Mr. Beidh fled to Oman.

Mr. Beidh and 15 other secessionist leaders, mostly from the YSP, are on a wanted list for trial in Yemen

on treason charges. The Sanaa-based provisional leadership of the YSP on Tuesday condemned Mr. Beidh's move and "the secession declaration as a non-patriotic and nonconstitutional act which is contrary to the party's prog-

But Mr. Salch in his speech, reported by Sanaa Radio, was not apparently content with the condemna-

He said: "We wished the YSP leadership inside the country bad adopted the positioo either during the recent events (war) or after the

end of these events." One political source said: "Saleh is tonghening his attitude and is trying to pressure YSP members at bome to bring them to their knees." Another source said that to

cedural system, a party conference would have to be held and elect a central committee. This committee should in turn elect a polit-

"Calling on the YSP leaders at home to dismiss secessionist leaders without following the party procedures means be (Saleb) is forcing them to have their backs against the wall," one source

Out of the YSP's 24 politburo members, there are six only in Sanaa. The rest are outside the country.

Yemen had been united since 1990 when the formerly Marxist and more secular South Yemen merged with

the more traditional north. "Those who are really unionists within the YSP have to define their attitude clearly and to dismiss from the party racks those -secessionist traitors," Mr. Saleh said.

He added that YSP membes who supported the secession or remained neutral during the war "bave to prove to the people their loyalty and sincerity to ... the unity." He did not say how. He urged Yemenis who went into exile when the war

ended to return home quickly and take advantage of a general amnesty which expires in mid-August. "As for those on the arrest warrant list, they can give

It said oo Sunday that

Israel was trying to sabotage Mr. Christopher's mediation

efforts with its attacks on

tion in South Lebanon Israel

is trying to divert Christ-

opher's tour from its objec-

tives and to keep the secret-

ary busy handling the situa-

tion in the south rather than

concentrating on how to push forward the peace process,"

the government newspaper,

"By escalating the situa-

themselves up and stand a fair trial. This is more honourable for them than sinking dismiss the leadership in the quagmire of plotting, according to the YSP proend wheo Israel pulls out of

the area.

Lebanon.

Sweden to help TCC expansion project signed by TCC Director By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter ised to pay the consultan-

AMMAN — The Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) on Sunday Swedtel, a firm affiliated with the Swedish telecommunications administration, under which Swedtel will help supervise and manage the corporation's expansion programme

The signing of the agreement takes the TCC programme one step further towards its goal of meeting up to 70 to 80 per cent of pending applica-tions for new phone lines

additional lines all over

the Kingdom in the first

When the first phase of the TCC expansion programme is completed, one in every seven Jordanians will have a telephone line as opposed to the present

one in every 10. The agreement was

General Abmad Al Nawawi, who noted that Swedtel had helped the corporation with consul-

tancy services in the past. Uoder the accord, Swedtel will assign 50 experts to Jordan and provide services to the TCC as part of a grant from the Swedish government to cover the costs of the first two years of the five-year programme.

Mr. Nawawi told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, after the signing that the Swedish government would pay all ex-penses related to the services offered by Swedtel while the salaries of experts assigned to Jordan would be paid by the Swedish development

The Jordanian government will only pay for the cost of the experts' stay in the Kingdom, he said. Afram Jamil, director of the TCC programme, said Sweden had promcy charges for the last three years of the prog-

Mr. Jamil told Petra that the government had secured financing for the \$300 millioo expansion programme. A \$200 million loan came from the World Bank, the European Bank for Investment (EIB), an arm of the European Union, the Japanese Eximbank, and the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank. The treasury will cover \$60

The five-year TCC expansion is the biggest programme undertaken by the corporation, which was forced to suspend all projects in 1989 when Jordan faced a severe econo-

mic crisis. Officials say that because of the suspension, Jordan's telecommunication setup suffered badly since the field of telecommunications is an area

which should be the first

negotiator told the Jordan

With that shift in negotiat-

ing strategy came fun-

damental changes to Jordan's handling of its talks with

Israel. The more obvious

shift was in the acceleration

of steps in the process of oormalising relations with

Israel and more subtly, de-laying the discussion of the

issue of refugees to make it

more parallel to talks in the

multilateral negotiations.

to incorporate advanced international technology on a regular basis and cannot afford to lag be-

Experts also note that telecommunications projects are not designed and installed in a few months. Rather, they take a minimum of two years to be designed and built to suit the particular needs and existing structure of the concerned country or net-

Amendments to TCC legislation have allowed the corporation to grant eoncessions to private eompanies for "eomplimentary" services. A private company has the radio-paging concession, and another is expected soon to be given a conces-sion for a cellular phone

system, Jordan's first. However, the TCC remains the sole anthority in Jordan as far as tele-. phone, telex and facsimile services are concerned.

to Jordan's readiness to im-

israel as soon as they

reached.

Jordan Times.

plement sub-agreements with

"What people are now de-

scribing as normalisation is

actually the implementation

of snb-agreements," one

well-placed politician told the

The Washington Declara-

Aqaba hosts Jordan-Israel summit

(Continued from page 1)

Oslo agreement between Palestinians and Israel, followed by the Cairo agreement in May, made it impossible for Jordan to remain "outside the game" as it re-mained behind the Palesti-

With the Madrid formula for negotiations with Israel redundant, Jordan fell back to its own first agreement with Israel, the common agenda signed in Washington

the Palestinians at the beginning of negotiations also be-

negotiating the terms of the common agenda," a senior analysts point out, Jordan was always resisting U.S. and Israeli pressore to through the motions" before actually resolving the core conflict, a pressure that the Kingdom had repeatedly resisted when it felt it was supported by an Arab con-

"But the Oslo agreement changed all that," a seasoned

When the Palestinian leadership conducted its own sec-ret talks with Israel in Oslo, minimising the value of the Washington bilateral talks, "it set the tone for a new policy towards negotiating

with Israel." Jordan, analysts believe, became under more pressure to raise the level of its negotiators with Israel if only to follow the suit of the Palestinians who appeared to have fled the Madrid formula which initially brought Arabs to the negotiating table with

In fact, analysts say, the

The first indication of the weeks," he added. change in the Kingdom's And by today, most of policy towards Israel was those sub-agreements would when officials began pointing have been implemented.

(Continued from page 1)

which guarantee freedom of expression to all citizens."

The quiet and balanced dialogue through the available channels, included the licensed newspapers of the pobtical parties, allow all to express their views freely." Dr. Majali said.

The party leaders expressed their thanks to Dr. Majali their request, Petra said.

Jordan moving with clear goal — Majali by Deputy Prime Minister Thougan Hindawi, Interior Minister Salameh Hammad and Minister of State Abdul-

lah Jazi.

for meeting with them on short notice in response to The meeting was attended

The parties represented at the meeting were the Jordan Arab Socialist Party, the Islamic Action Front, the Jordan Socialist Democratic Party, the Jordan Democratic People's Party, the Jordan Communist Party and the Jordan Arab Democratic Party and the Jordanian Arab Popular Committee for Confronting Concessions and Normalisa tion of Relations with Israel.

Agaba residents nonplussed

(Continued from page 1)

But the economic consideration will win over the other two. And it is not difficult to see why. The shop is stocked to the hilt. But except for some passersby who peeped to ask whether he had any sunggled cigarettes, hardly anyone came inside.
"We have become prag-

matists," a customer at a nearby barbershop said. Jamal, a 29-year-old engineer, believes that every-one is "all mixed up and

confused." He says that during the five years of democratisation "many of us have come to feel that the country's interest is to stay away from demonstrations.

A regular mosque goer, he said the democratisation process had instilled a kind of maturity towards political developments. "Êven though I know that

it is wrong to trust the Jews and that as long as Arab territories are occupied it is my Muslim duty to fight the enemy, I also know that I must feel responsible towards

"So for now we will watch

Nayef, a middle-aged souvenir shop owner, is not going to waste time watching.
This is a different kind of

"If we do not use our brains and energy we will be eaten up by this horrible ghoul," he said in reference

14. He reflected the overall sentiment best.

Leaving philosophy to the philosophers, the bedouin said he was "happy that peace was coming to our country.

peace," the dark-skinned thin man declared as he sat at the barber shop. But when asked whether he was prepared for the arrival of Mr.

sleep in a Jewish home."

Blast in Nabatiyeh kills 3

NABATTYEH (AP) — AD explosion ripped through this South Lebanon market town Sunday and police said two people were killed and seven wounded, including two small sisters.

Police initially said the explosioo was caused by a bomb that blew up a tractortrailer. Theo police and army investigators at the scene said detonators placed in a box of dynamite next to a drilling compressor towed by the tractor apparently exploded

accideotally.

The explosion came amid mounting tensions in South Lebanon between guerrillas and Israeli forces as U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived in the Middle East to promote

Upsurges of violence has become customary in South Lebanon, the only active Arab-Israeli war front, whenever Middle East peace

efforts gather momentum. Military sappers sifted through the wreckage Sunday afternoon looking for clues that might give them information about the explosion. They were aided by heavily armed troops and policemen who kept onlookers away.

Dynamite is usually used in rock domolition at construction sites and the government bas baoned transport of dynamite boxes next to compressors, which heat up after usage. But violations long have been abundant.

The explosion occurred at 10:20 a.m. (0720 GMT) as the tractor-trailer was negotiating a road bend in front of the main police station at Nabatiyeh's Hussainiyeb Square.

Police identified the dead as the driver and a passenger on the tractor-trailer.

Among the wounded were four members of a family who were walking near the police station when the blast occurred. They included three-year-old Zahra Daoud, her four-month-old sister, Batoul, and their pareots,

police and hospital officials. In addition, two officers at the police station suffered car injuries from the sound of the blast, comrades at the scene

Broken glass from the three-storey police station littered the bloodstained street where six cars lay badly damaged. Mangled telephone and power cables hung limply

tion summed up these agreements and paved the road for over the wreckage. the accelerated steps by Jor-A blood-splattered dan over the past two women's shoe and pieces of buman flesh were scattered on the square, turned slip-pery by diesel and gasoline that leaked from damaged

vehicles. Hassan Koteish suffered a micor head injury and his white Mercedes Benz was banged up and blackeoed by shoot.

"Another car was tossed into the side of mine from the impact of the explosion. I jumped out and rushed to hospital, bleeding from the bead," Mr. Koteish recalled later at the site, bis forchead bandaged and white shirt sprayed with blood and fuel

At the south hospital, two blocks away, Mona Ayoub stood at the doorstep oursing ber swollen left arm while waiting for X-ray results. Her right arm was bandaged at the wrist.

She had been driving with ber mother in their Oldsmobile bebind the tractor-trailer when the explosion occurred.

"I panieked, abandoned the car and fled into the police station after the vehicle caught fire," said the woman in ber 20s, ber hair singed from the flame.

Her mother, Ibtihai, had glass splinters in her eyes and was transferred to hospital in Sidon, provincial capital of the south about half an hour's drive away.

Nabativeh, a towo of 30,000 inhabitants, is surrounded from three sides by hilltop outposts of Israeli troops protecting an enclave Israel occupies as a "security zone" to shield its territories from cross-border guerrilla

On Saturday, two Israeli soldiers were killed and three wounded in a Hizbollah ambush in the "security zone," triggering beavy Israeli artillery bombardment of villages facing the enclave. Hizbollah guernilas also fired several Katyusha rockets into

said YSP members should Christopher holds talks in Syria

(Continued from page 1) parties who might be effective in bringing those attacks under control. I've done that again in this situation," Mr. Chritopher said. "Incidents like those that have happened in the last few days only underscore the need for a peaceful resolution of these

Israel says Syria, the main powerbroker in Lebanoo, could curb attacks by Hizbollah guerrillas from Lebanon. Hizbollah killed two Israeli

into Israel wounding three The Hizbollah attacks followed an Israeli air raid into Lebanon ou Thursday that killed eight Lebanese civi-lians. Israel said the deaths were caused by a bomb that

oldiers in an ambush on

Saturday and fired rockets

strayed off course. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres vowed Sunday that Israel will keep retaliating against rocket attacks, saying after a meeting with Mr. Christopher that "we aren't asked to stop it or

Mr. Christopher publicly urged all sides, including Israel, to exercise restraint. "My main aim is to prevent this round of violence from cycling and causing damage to the peace process," he

Despite Christopher's appeal, a senior U.S. official said "the Israelis will respond as circumstances on the ground warrant." The offi-cial, insisting on anonymity, added: "The issue is not the United States telling Israel

how to conduct its policy. "We salute the energies of the secretary not to let the momentum for peace to subaide," Mr. Peres told reporters in Israel before Mr.

Christopher left. "We have revealed to the secretary our own feelings and judgment expressing our

Lebanoo developments," he relations with the Syrians,"

he added.

expectations that the Syrians have a great deal to say in the

"We also support the attempt which is being today conducted by the secretary to have a breakthrough in our

Syria, which bas some 35,000 troops in Lebanon, says Lebanese resistance against Israeli occupation troops in the south can only

'Araba Crossing opens today' (Continued from page 1)

Aqaba. But the formal schedule of their visit did not include a visit to Petra. Officials said the Kingdom remained far from signing a peace accord with Israel and would only be able to consider such a settlement once issues related to territorial and water rights are resolved. "Only then we can even think of a peace treaty," Information Minister Jawad Al

Anani said. On Tuesday, Jordanian and Israeli negotiators open 'cootinuous" talks at an Israeli hotel on the shores of the Dead Sea on the territorial and water disputes.

Mr. Rabin Sunday signed a decree establishing the crossing point in the south, government officials said. In the Israeli resort of Eilat a sign in Hebrew, English and French saying "Welcome to the Araba crossing point" has replaced one which said:

"Border. No Crossing." A bank has already established a branch near the border and a refreshments bar with a sign in Hebrew saying: Peace knows no borders. The crossing will only he

open four days a week, and

will stay closed on Fridays,

Saturdays and Sundays, the

officials said. Opening hours

Tishreen, said. will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vehicles registered in Israel or Jordan will not be allowed through the crossing. Visitors travelling by Jus from Eilat will transfer to

Jordanian buses to reach Aqaba, and vice versa. In a statement to Sawt Al Arab Radio, Minister of Information Jawad Anani Sunday said oegotiations between Jordan and Israel had gone beyond for bargaining stage to a more advanced

Dr. Anani said the bilateral negotiations that resume Tuesday would focus on border delineation and seek to reach an agreement on Jordan's share of the Jordan River and Yarmouk River through the various committees that were set up for this

The two issues concerning refugees and progress on other Arab tracks are still unsettled and stand in the way of a Jordanian-Israeli comprehensive peace agreement," he said.

The minister saw that the

public in Jordan is generally in support of the latest de-

velopments on the Jordanian

There is some opposition," be said, "but it is characterised by rationality and tries to see matters from a strategic point of view."

nsus to stand fast. analyst said.

in September of last year. In that agenda, Jordan still kept its commitment to a "comprehensive peace" set-tlement of the Arab-Israel conflict. But it gained more freedom to negotiate the issues that are of direct concern to it, especially that the umbrella it had provided for

"What we are doing now is

Jordan-Israel phone lines opened

phone lines were opened. The opening came as a surprise to many since earlier indications were that the lines woold go operational on Monday along with the opening of an Aqaba-Eilat cros-

(Continued from page 1)

sing in the south. It was also announced in Israel that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was expected to make the first call from Jordan to Israel. There was no immediate explanation of the changed plans.

Dozens of calls came to Amman residents from relatives living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip shortly after the King's conversation with Mr. Weizman. The line was very clear, devoid of the distortions that often plague international lines.

ching of the crossing in the south in the context of cooperation in tourism, the opening of the telephone line was the latest tangible step in implementation of the Washington Declaration signed by King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yit-

Linking the power grids of

the two countries so that each

With the scheduled laun-

could help the other in times of peak-load demands is another measure envisaged in the declaration, but that move is expected to take some time, experts said. Water and Irrigation

meanwhile that Israel had pumped in four million cubic metres of water to Jordanian territory starting last week. scribed as a "positive step in the right direction" by In-

and water disputes between Jordan and Israel. settled along with the thorny issue of Palestinian refugees in the Kingdom before a peace treaty could be consi-

ly in an implicit reference to

After Sunday's cell no peace yet. "At some stage we have to

the minister said.

reach normalisation with King Hussein so that every conversation and visit will not create soeb great excitement," Mr. Weizman said.

Minister Saleh Irsheidat said The Israeli gesture was deformation Minister Jawad Al Anani on Saturday, obvious-

the outstanding territorial These problems have to be dered with the Jewish state,

finished, Mr. Weizman himself tempered Israeli euphoria, reminding journalists that despite the good feelings about the phone call, there was

this country."

war... now it is a war of the economies."

to Israel. But perhaps the overriding sentiment among strollers through this market, was expressed by Eissa, a father of

"It is important to have

Rabin in Aqaba, he said: "No, I don't think so." But true to his bedouin tradition, be says be will stick to an old saying of the desert dwellers: "You should have dinner with a Christian and

northern Israel. Hizbollah said it carried

oot Saturday's attack to avenge Israel's air raid Thursday oo Deir Al Zahrani.

Sheikh ^{Mu} vas killed in along with P about the chools and the blame

tion itself. st 40 years. for lesting have the rise books only those ch only for ation. es for poor ion to the

Arab Gulf states lag ehind in eavy industry

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Wealthy Arab Gulf states zeve made headway in an dustrialisation drive to lescen reliance on their oil wealth but still lag behind in ≿≥avy products, an official

From \$4.1 billion in 1975, industrial investment in the ex-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) surged to 340.9 billion in 1993 and the gross domestic product in the sector jumped from 4.6 per cent to 9.4 per cent, the report by the Gulf Organisacon for Industrial Consultancy (GOIC) said.

But the bulk of investments covered light products such as chemicals, food, ciothes, metals, home appliinces, peper, coment and

Chemicals accounted for nearly balf the industrial capital receiving \$19.7 bilion, while around \$3.4 bilion were invested in metal industries and \$4.3 billion in food, according to the report, published in United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspap-

The figures did not include investments in petrochemicals, estimated at nearly \$18 billion. Most of products in this sector are exported to Japan and the European Un-

GCC states - Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar. Kuwait and the UAE - have been trying to diversify their oil-reliant economies by building up an industrial base since sectors such as tourism and agriculture are relatively small due to their arid desert

tum in the mid-1980s when oil prices began to decline and created large deficits in Gulf budgets.

GCC states have sought technology from industrial countries to set up projects for heavy products with little argued the Gulf market is relatively small and investment laws prevent them from having full ownership in in-

dustrial ventures.
As a result, industrial excorts by GCC nations have
remained as low as \$8 billion
a vear compared with exports of crude oil, gas and pet-rochemicals of more than \$70

billion. The Doba-based GOIC, which advises on government: industrial policies in the GCC, said nearly half the investments in the sector were based in Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil producer and exporter.

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's parliament Saturday approved a 1994/95 budget that entails a hefty rise of around 20 per cent in the deficit but provides for higher public service charges on in-

Welfare state entitlements for Kuwaitis such as free. health and education and a host of social benefits went untouched by members of parliament searching for ways to cut a Gulf war-inflated shortfall.

The opposition-dominated assembly approved a gross deficit of 1.766 billion dinars (\$5.9 billion), an 18 per cent rise from a 1993/94 gross shortfall originally projected at 1.494 billion dinars (\$5 billion). The net shortfall will be

1.502 billion dinars (\$5 bilion), a 23 per cent rise on the originally projected 1993/94 net deficit of 1.223 billion (\$4.1 billion). A 1976 law requires minis-ters to transfer 10 per cent of

state revenue to an investment fund designed to help finance the government when oil runs out over a century from now.

The opposition-dominated assembly said the shortfall would be covered from state

Investment officials say that in practice the deficit is financed by a mixture of

domestic borrowing, allocations from state investment income and state foreign investment sales. State agencies also resort to spending delays and postponement.

The assembly set state spending at 4.14 billion dinars (\$13.8 billion), an 11 per cent increase on 1993/94 spending originally planned at 3.937 billion (\$13.2 bil-

projected revenue at 2.637 billion dinars (\$8.8 billion), a fall of 6.5 per cent from 1993/94 revenue originally projected at 2.713 billion dinars (\$9.1 billion).

The assembly, some of whose members were absent for the vote, approved the budget bill 36-0 with no abstentions. The budget now goes to the emir for enact-

Most of the rise in the deficit is due to inclusion in the budget for the first time of hitherto secret allocations for arms purchases. Excluding the arms procurement allocations, which amount to at least 450 million dinars (\$1.51 billion), would produce a 14 per cent fall in the net deficit.

Gulf war-related expenses, including repairing damaged oilfields, cost Kuwait tens of billions of dollars and more than halved its once large foreign investment empire. A state economic commit-

tee said recently that the budget deficit, already running at a fifth of gross domestic product, would grow by almost 50 per cent by the year 2000 unless the system of generous state subsidies was reformed.

The government initially proposed 1994/95 spending of 4.39 billion (\$14.7 billion) and projected revenue of 2.537 billion dinars (\$8.5 bil-. hon), making a net deficit of 1.853 billion dinars (\$6.2 bil-

and economic affairs committee persuaded the govern-ment to cut 250 million dinars (\$839 million) from state expenditure mainly by trimming miscellaneous expenditure by 178 million dinars (\$596 million) and reducing construction allocations by 60 million (\$201 million).

They also agreed to increase revenues by 100 million dinars (\$335 million) by levying new custom fees and ing electricity, transportation and communication service charges, mainly on

industrial companies.

For example, factories in

Knwait, currently charged

one fils per kilowatt hour, will be charged two fils per kilowatt hour. But only those firms which are making profits and do not need government support will have to pay the higher cost.

There are 1000 fils to one dinar, which is worth \$3.35. Finance Minister Nasser Al Rodhan, in a statement to the House last month, proposed levying income tax for the first on Kuwaitis and expatriates in the medium to long

Sheikh Rodhan also suggested levying company tax
— now applied only on foreign concerns — on Kuwaiti firms as well as imposing a tax on sales and fees for services currently free of

No mention was made of these ideas in the budget bill. In another action, Kuwait's parliament, shielding small borrowers from possible legal action by the government, has extended a deadline for debtors to arrange settlement under a plan to solve the country's thorniest economic problem.

The assembly late Saturday approved a measure extending to Oct. 31 a deadline for 2,555 debtors to arrange act-tlement of the 377 million dinars (\$1.26 billion) they The parliament also

approved a measure enabling

the debtors, in certain cir-

cumstances, to register for settlement through a power of attorney. Deputy Adnan Abdul Samad told Reuters the de-

btors included many people who owed relatively small amounts of money and provided they met the new deadline they would now be able to benefit from the generous terms of the difficult debt, settlement programme.

The 2,555 had failed to meet a March 31 deadline to

agree a repayment schedule. Their entire debt immediately fell due and the state may petition the courts to declare them bankrupt.

Bankers said many simply were unaware of the programme's existence and others had died since the debt was incurred - some of it as long as 12 years ago. Others include some who may have thought mistakenly their debt was forgiven in a government write-off of Kuwaitis' consumer debt after the Gulf

The programme is an attempt to settle at least 5.7 billion dinars (\$19 billion) in bad debt that stems partly from the 1982 crash of a kerbside stock exchange and partly from commercial losses aggravated by Iraq's 1990-91 occupation.

In all 9.546 corporate and individual debtors are involved, including many individual wealthy merchants and their firms.

Commercial banks, acting on behalf of the government,

Kuwaiti parliament approves 94/95 budget with \$5.9b deficit last week sent papers to the attorney general's office in preparation for legal action against the defaulting bor-

Bankers have said 3.359 debtors failed to meet the March deadline. There was no immediate explanation for the discrepancy between their figure and parliament's figure for the debtors.

Accounts of how much the defaulters owe in total have ranged in recent months from 209 million dinars (\$700 million) to 900 million dinars (\$3.0 billion).

The government in 1992 bought the banks' portfolios of bad debts with government bonds under a law aimed at solving a problem that has cast a pall over the economy since 1982.

The commercial banks now have the job of recovering the money on behalf of the

The successful operation of the programme would boost a banking system that was once one of the Gulf's most buoyant but which is now stagnant because of the bad debts, capital flight and worries about Iraq.

Most debtors who met the deadline opted for cash settlement, which provides generous forgiveness of up to per cent, rather than a. year rescheduling option, which has stricter terms.

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UAE turns budget deficit into surplus

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ABU DHABI (AFP) - A deficit in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) federal budget turned into an actual surplus in 1993 although defence spending remained as high as half the toal allocations, the central bank has said.

The deficit, which had been projected at \$470 million in 1993, turned into a surplus of 52.8 million dirhams (\$14.38 million) at the end of the year, the bank said in its annual report for 1993.

The report attributed this to a sharp cut in actual expenditure to 15.4 billion dirhams (\$4.19 billion) from a projected 17.6 billion chams (\$4.79 billion dollars).
The surplus occurred de-

spite a steep decline in revenues to around \$4.138 billion from a projected \$4.32 billion.

In 1992, a projected deficit of \$381 million also turned into a surplus of \$569 million, according to the report.
"The UAE is one of the

few Arab states to record surpluses in its budgets due to cuts in actual spending," UAE banker told AFP.

This has enabled it to avert borrowing from world markets or issuing bonds.

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Mubarak opposes currency devaluation

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, in his first intervention in a disagreement between his government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), said Saturday be opposed devaluing the Egyptian pound.

devaluation during 10 days of talks in Washington last month but did not come to

any agreement. The IMF says Egypt needs to reconsider its policy of maintaining the pound at no more than 3.40 to the dellar.

Egyptian ministers discussed The government says devaluation would lead to inflation, damage confidence in the economy and add little to

> Mr. Mubarak, speaking to members of the ruling National Democratic Party in the coastal city of Alexan

dria, said:
"Studies on the possibility

of devaluing the pound showed that it would impact negatively and would have effects which do not agree with our economic interests. So we refused to discuss this subject." He was quoted by

all government newsparers.
Mr. Mubarak said the covernment would leave the pound to the forces of supply and demand but did not ela-

Sher Control Bank of Egypt intervened heavily to support the pound about 10 days ago.

Labour unrest poses threat to growth in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - South Africa's continuing labour woes will put a damper on economic growth, causing a budget shortfall that could threaten the new government's reconstruction plan, economists said Sun-

Outgoing finance minister Derek Keys, backed by most economists, had confidently predicted that South Africa's economy would grow by be-.
tween three and four per cent in 1994.

But a series of strikes, affecting the automobile, retail and other major industries, has caused economists to drop their growth estimate

to 2.5 per cent.
About 25,000 auto workers went on strike last Monday, costing South Africa's. second-largest manufacturing industry an estimated 100 million rand (\$27.5 million)

per day. The auto strike followed a bitter three-week action by some 30,000 workers at major retailer Pick 'n Pay that at times turned violent with clashes between picketers and police.

The Pick 'n Pay strike was resolved Wednesday, avert-ing a general strike in the industrial beartland of Johannesburg that had been called by the Courses of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), the country's largest union federation.

Ben van Rensburg, eco-nomist at the South African Chamber of Businessi (SACOB), the country's major employer body, believes the current wave of strikes could undermine the country's fledgling economy recovery and cause higher unemployment.

Strike-related violence and conflict bave had a negative impact on South Africa's image as an investment destination, and hence onr longer-term growth poten-tial," Mr. Van Rensburg tial,

SACOB, and major banks

Standard and ABSA, have downgraded their growth estimate to 2.5 per cent, while the University of South Africa's Bureau for Market Research estimates only 2.2 per cent growth for 1994, the Sunday Times newspaper reported.

The Bureau said economic growth would only come if capital can be attracted to South Africa, but the strikes were. "frightening investors away and delaying the econo-mic recovery."

The effect of the lower

growth rate would be to significantly lower tax revenue collected by the government, causing a larger than ex-pected budget deficit.

Economists warn that if the

government does experience a revenue shortfall, it will impact on President Nelson Mandela's ability to deliver on the promises in his ambitious Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

The RDP aims to address

apartheid backlogs by build-ing houses, stoviding jobs and fostering more black par-ticipation in the whitedominated economy.

Mr. Mandela has appealed to both labour and business to work out their wage settle-ments amicably, without disrupting the economy.

But COSATU unions have

been demanding wage increases well above the prevailing 7.5 per cent annualised inflation rate, citing poor increases during three years

of recession. Analysts also believe workers feel they should be given a larger slice of the economic cake following the April allrace elections that ushered in democracy.

The safe way

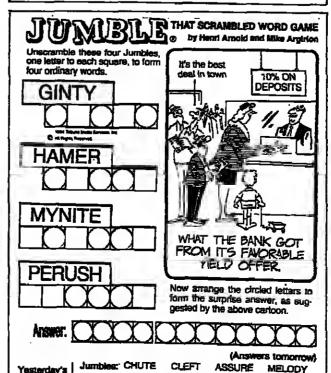
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The Disi Special Committee in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan invites highly qualified and experi-enced international consulting firms in association with Class A "Water, Electro-Mechanical, Buildings, and Roads" Jordanian consultant(s), to submit their technical and financial offers for a technical and economic feasibility study and project design of the water conveyance system including (wellfields, pipelines, reservoirs, pumping stations and associated works) from Disi-Mudawwara area to the city of Amman on the basis of the Terms of Reference. International consultants may initially choose to submit their offers without local association. However, the winning international consultant is obligated and therefore requested, before signature of the agreement, to present the above classified local associate(s) for approval by the Disi Special Committee. It is anticipated that the local technical input shall not exceed 35%.

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The Project consists of conveying over a length of at least 340 km 80 million cubic metres per annum at a total head of 800 metres. It is intended that the Project will be presented to bilateral or international agencies for financing the construction contract or invite bids for private sector financed BOT/BOO contract.

Terms of reference are available against a written application and the payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 1,000 equivalent to US\$1,500 from the Tenders Division at the Water Authority Headquarters, P.O.Box 2412, Tel. (+) 962 6 680 100, Fax. (+) 692 6 679 143, Amman, Jordan.

International consultants can make their own arrangements with international air courier to pay and collect on their behalf the said Terms of Reference.

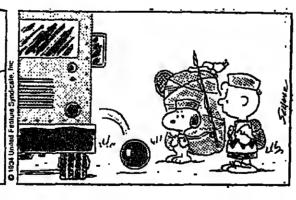
Offers are due not later than 1300 hours Jordan local time on Saturday 15 October 1994, to the Office of the Secretary General of the Water Authority/Tenders

ENG. KOUSSAI A. QUTEISHAT CHAIRMAN OF THE DIS! SPECIAL TENDERING COMMITTEE SECRETARY GENERAL WATER AUTHORITY OF JORDAN

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Financial Markets

Jordan Times Calro Amman Bank



Foreign Exchange Market Summary (August 1 — August 5, 1994)

United Art | d into an actual programme of the second of AMMAN - The dollar ended little changed at the end of ig remained to the total allocation at all bank has lest week, from its closing levels of the previous week. The U.S. unit rose against other major currencies Monday, as the market finally tilted towards a perception that the U.S. administration no longer wished to see a lower dollar as it, which be did at \$470 m2 means of quelling Japanese imports, in view of the negative influence it has had on U.S. financial markets. This turned into; 52.8 million happened despite another set-back in the U.S.-Japan trade talks, after the Japnese failed to open their markets to some 38 million) a year, the bank U.S. products ahead of the July 31st deadline set for the

implementation of U.S. trade sanctions.

On the other hand, the dollar gained ground against sterling, as the latter declined when expectations of a probable monetary tightening in the U.K. failed to material-

The dollar continued its rise against the mark and yeu Taesday. It penetrated the 100 yen level, on continued perception that the dollar/yen rate is no longer a function of developments in the U.S.-Japan trade talks, at least for the time being. Meanwhile, the dollar's rise against the yen triggered its rise against the mark and other European

The U.S. unit witnessed a relapse Wednesday, however, on concern over the outcome of the U.S. employment report one at the end of the week. It also lost ground on dollar sales for marks by a major U.S. bank.

The dollar appreciated against other major currencies Thursday, in view of comments by Robert Parry, President of the Federal Reserve (Fed) Bank of San Francisco. Mr. Parry said that a forward looking monetary policy can help the Fed avoid the unstable policy it followed during the 70's, and will achieve a lasting economic expansion. Mr. Parry, a member of the FOMC, added that a Fed study revealed that an unemployment level below six per cent in the U.S. can be considered inflationary, while non-inflationary full employment can be achieved at an unemployment level of 6.25 per

Many market participants took Mr. Parry's comments as an indication that the Fed will raise the federal rates on its next scheduled FOMC meeting on 16/8/1994. Meanwhile,

the dollar ignored a later remark by Mr. Parry, in which he said that he expects the U.S. economy to witness slower growth during the second half of 1994.

The dollar retreated against other major currencies Friday, on fears of inflationary pressures in the U.S. after the release of the U.S. employment report. The dollar also lost ground on declining U.S. bond prices, which fell after the release of the employment reports as well. The U.S. unit, thus ended the week at \$1.5797 marks,

100.20 yen and at \$1.5415 to the pound sterling. New York Closing Rates for Major Currencies Against the

Ситтепсу	29/7/94 Close	5/8/94 Close	Percent Change
Sterling Pound	:.5+30	1,5415	10.10)\$
Deutsche Mark	1.5829	1.5797	0.20 %
Swiss Franc	1.3395	1.3335	0.45 \$
French Franc	5.4095	5,4090	0.01 \$
Japanese Yen	99.95	100.20	(0.25)%

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						Date:	7:8/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.5940	0.6960
Sterling Pound	7.0687	1.0740
Deutsche Mark	0.4395	0.4417
Swiss Franc	0.5199	0.5225
French Franc	0.1282	0.1288
Japanese Yen [†]	0.6915	0.6950
Datch Gailder	0.3912	0.5932
Swedish Krona		474,00
Italian Lira*	0.0440	0.0442
Belgian Franc	******	*****

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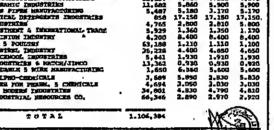
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Oman and Bahrain in final stage to link stock markets

ABU DHABI (R) -Bahrain and Oman are in the final stages of linking their stock markets in the first such move by Arab Guif states,

officials have said. Fawzi Behzad, director eneral of the Bahrian Stock Exchange, said a joint committee would meet this month to finalise details on cross-listing shares on the two exchanges.

"We want to build a bridge from Manama. "We want to work out dual listing as well as ease dual investment ... before the end of the year."

The two exchanges have a combined capital of about \$6.0 billion for about 120 publicly-traded companies. Bahrain and Oman signed

Morocco

okays \$518m

new projects

RABAT (R) - The Moroc-

can government approved in-

dustrial investment projects worth 4,645 million dirhams

(\$518 million) in the first half, a 24 per ceot increase

over the same period of 1993,

an official source has said.

dually withdrawn from the

industrial investment sector

in favour of private enter-

Investments in the textile

and leather sector rose by 23

per cent, chemicals 70 per

cent, metallurgy 16 per cent,

electricity and electronics 31

per cent and others 21 per

Banking sources said the

rise in investment projects

coupled with a record harvest

of more than nine million tonnes of cereals this year

showee there was an econo-

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mic upturn after a recession.

cross-list shares before the end of 1994 in the first such deal between Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states.

Mr. Behzad said one proposal would be for Bahrain investors to place orders through brokers in Bahrain, who would then execute the trade through Omani brok-

"It will encourage trading because it will save on costs, he said. "Cross-listing will be voluntary for companies. But we are opening the door for

them and hope they will take advantage of this new move." Moseat Securities Exchange Director Mahmond Jarwani said that Oman's

an agreement in 1992 to council of ministers has so far approved applications from two Bahraini companies to be listed in Oman.

> Both countries are slowly opening their doors to foreign participation. Oman last month started listing a joint myestment fund with the United Arab Emirates and in May launched its first inutual fund, Oryk, to include fore-

The Oryx fund is listed in Muscat and London exchanges. Oman is studying setting up a similar fund with a Japanese company.

Mr. Behzad in Joly approved a rule to allow fore-igners who have resided io Bahrain for one year to trade

"This is the first week that foreigners living in Bahrain are trading. My understanding is that many inquiries about the status of companies have been placed," he said.

Brokers said it was to early to provide figures but one said foreigners have executed trades in past five days. They said they hoped fore-

igners would give a boost to Bahrain's stock market where the index has fallen to 1,597 at the end of July from 1,928 at the beginning of the

They attributed the slow market to a liquidity shortage, sluggish summer trad-ing, and higher interest rates.

Dubai reports surge in trade, port activity

DUBAI, United Arah Emirates, (AFP) — Dubai, the barometer of business in the oil-rich Gulf, has reported a sharp growth in trade and operations at its two main ports in the first four months of 1994.

Non-oil trade surged by 12.3 per cent to 22.9 billion The 1,903 approved projects benefit from state incendirhams (\$6.23 billion) from tives such as tax waivers, 20.4 billion dirhams (\$5.55 cheap factory sites and crebillion) in the same period of 1993, according to the Dubai Private projects make up Commerce and Tourism 97.3 per cent of total investments, the state having gra-Promotion Board,

Imports rose by 11.4 per ceot. Reexports jumped by 33.4 per cent to \$1.05 billion from \$780 million.

Officials at the state-run board said the large growth in reexports was due to an increase in exports to neighbouring Iran, which has remained the main market for Dubai's reexports.

Reexports to Kowait, Saudi Arabia, India, Pakistan, Hong Kong and Singapore also rose in the first four

Dubai, a member of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), is the main Gulf

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commercial ceotre, handling more than one fifth of the region's non-oil trade.

A business opswing after the Gulf war boosted the emirate's trade to a record 64 billion dirhams (\$17.4 hillion) io 1993.

'The level of business in the first months of 1994 indicate Dubai's trade will hit another record," a board official told AFP.

Most of Dubai's trade is handled by its two main ports, Mina Rashid and Jebel Ali, which are rated among the biggest 20 ports in the

The report showed a marked increase in operations at the two ports, with cargo rising by eight per ceot to 6.3 million tonnes in the first quarter of 1994 from around 5.8 million tonnes in the same period of 1993.

Containers jumped by 21 per cent to around 460,400 from 379,100 while the number of vessels increased by 10 per cent to 2,325.

It gave no figures on investment during the plan.

Russia plans to step up diamond processing

MOSCOW (R) — The Russian government has given preliminary hacking to a plan to refine more of its own diamonds, a move which could give a smaller role to Sonth Africa's De Beers, a top official has said.

The plan to jocrease the amount of gems polished in Russia would probably mean fewer local gems being sold through De Beers' Central Selling Organisation (CSO), Leonid Gurevich, deputy head of the State Precious Metals Committee, said.

"If we have well-developed facilities for processing di-amonds in Russia, then naturally we will be more interested in selling diamonds here," he told Reuters by telephone.

Asked if it would mean fewer gems would be sold through the CSO, he said, probably. We have never concealed that this is what we are aiming for -- working our own diamonds."

fitable our own diamonds." "Naturally it is more profitable to trade the ready made product rather than the raw materials," he added.

Russia has an agreement. due to expire in 1995, to sell 95 per cent of its rough-gem diamood exports through the CSO but the two sides are currently renegotiating the deal. Russian diamonds accounted for 26 per cent of De Beers sales last year.

Mr. Gurevich said the nev programme, which he said could win fioal approval later this year, would oot influence the talks on the sales deal hetween Russia and De

"You cannot link the existence of the programme with the negotiations with De Beers," Mr. Gurevich said. "First of all the programme defines long-term goals. This is what we are striving for but it does not mean we will have it all tomorrow.

Raymond Clark, general manager of De Beers Moscow office said he was not surprised by Russia's move. But he added:

"Anything that might destabilise an already frigic market is obviously of concern to us."

Many Russian officials object to the deal with the South African giant, which was reached before the col-apse of the Soviet Union. They argue they could get better prices for their gems outside the CSO.

Talks have twice been postponed and are scheduled to resume oext month.

Mr. Clark said Russia's intention to develop its polishing industry had been clear for some time and there was little De Beers could do other than manager the situa-

Asked about the impact of the programme, he said, "it will obviously depend on the capacity of the manufacturing industry within Russia and how quickly they are able to gear up their productive capacity. "He said it was not always understood how hard it was to add value to di-

Russia has opened a handful of polishing plants with the help of foreign investors. Some officials hope the country could one day compete with established diamond

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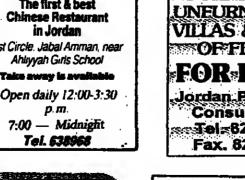
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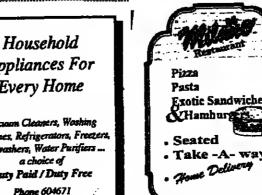








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Dutch Olympic champion pulls out of Europeans

HELSINKI (R) — Olympic 800 metres champion Ellen van Langen of the Netherlands was forced to pull out of the European Championships at the last minute on Sunday.

Dutch team officials said van Langen had strained a hamstring muscle in her left leg last Tuesday and decided to pull out of the competition on Saturday night after a late fitness test.

The injury was another major blow to the 28-year-old whose career which has been dogged by injury. After her victory at the Barcelona Olympics, van Langen also missed most of last season because of injuries.

With van Langen out of her heat, Lynbov Gurina, the silver medilist at last year's World Championships, went through easily to the semifinals, as the opening day got under way in overcast but warmish conditions.

Gurina clocked two minutes, 1.87 seconds as a group of athletes passed the line together.

in the men's 400 metres hardles. Sweden's Sven Nylander and Niklas Wallenlind, silver and bronze medallists respectively at the last championships in 1990, booked their places in the semifinals.

Nylander looked strong dowen the finishing straight as he won his heat in 49.71 seconds while Wallenlind finished second in his heat in 49.45.

Portugal's Pedro .. Rodrigues was the fastest of the qualifiers in 49.05.

Natalya Dukhnova of Belarus, who has looked impressive in the women's 800 metres this season and went into the championships with the second fastest time in Europe and fourth fastest in the world, qualified by win-ning her heat in 2:04.49. Carla Sacramento was the

fastest of the women's 800 qualifiers in 2:01.86. Russian sprinter Irina Privalova, who has never won a major individual title outdoors but has an excellent chance to do a sprint double here, cruised through her 100 metres heat.

Privalova relaxed in the second half of the race, looking around in the last 10 metres to win in 11.38 seconds and reach the second round with ease.

Ukraine's Zhanna Tarnopolskaya, who is expected to be Privalova's main challenger, looked sharp in taking her heat in 11.13, the fastest time of the first round. Privalova was fourth fastest.

Britain's Olympic sprint champion Lionford Christie also looked confident in his first race since mid-July following a niggling hamstring injury.
The 34-year-old world and

defending European champion seemed relaxed as he won his heat easily in 10.39. After a good start, Christie switched down a gear after 50 metres and still won by half a stride despite slowing down in the last 10 metres.

Christie had said he was hungry to get back on the track after the frustration of being forced to sit on the sidelines since he pulled up at the end of the 100 metres at the London Grand Prix meeting on July 15.

As he returned to the dressing rooms after the race, the Jamaican-born sprinter put his thumb up to the crowd in a sign of satisfaction that he had come through his first race successfully.

Christie, who has a hotcold relationship with the media, refused to talk to reporters afterwards.

Geir Moen brought some good news to the Norwegian sprinting camp after Aham Okeke was thrown off the team on the eve of the championships for failing a drugs test when he clocked 10.29, the fastest time of the first

The biggest cheer of the morning session went to Portugal's Mandela Machado who won the firs gold medal of the championship in the women's marathon.

Machado, who led for much of the world championship marathon in Stuttgart last year before losing the lead and finishing second, clinched her first major championship title in an unofficial two hours, 29 minutes and 54 seconds.

After breaking away from the rest of the field at halfway, Machado was so far ahead as she entered the stadium that she could afford a few waves to the crowd as he ran around the last lap. It was a perfect birthday

Italy's Maria Curatolo was second in 2:30.33 with Roma-

present for the Portugese

runner who will be 31 on

nia's Adriana Barbu third in



Ranger's Craig Moore (6) pats Eric Cantona (right) of Machester United after being sent off during the international

tournament at Ibrox. The Glasgow Rangers won 1-0 (AFP photo)

Viren's statue adds to romance of Olympic stadium

HELSINKI (R) — While ar golds in the 100, 200, long first glance it would appear to jump and relay. be wholly inaccurate to say that modern athletics was born in the Olympic stadium in Helsinki, on closer examination, the statement is undeniably true.

Because exactly 11 years ago, the modern professional era of athletics started with the inangural World Championships in the stadium, a week in which modern-day heroes and beroines such as Carl Lewis, Sergei Buhka and Heike Drechsler all won their first major titles.

More than a decade later, that week in 1983 is still remembered as one of the greatest athletics competitions ever held.

Lewis, then 23, was the star of the show, winning gold medals in the 100 metres, long jump and relay, when he anchored the United States team to a world record of 37.86 seconds.

The following year in Los Angeles he emulated Jesse Owens haul of four Olympic jump and relay.
While his 1984 perform-

ance recaled Owens's great achievement of the 1936 Olympics, his triple medal haul in Helsinki also evoked memories of an earlier era in the same stadium.

In 1952, Emil Zatopek of Czechoslovakia won three Olympic golds in the 5,000, 10,000 and marathon.

The day Zatopek won his 5,000 title was also the day his wife Dana won the women's javelin title, an event special to Finnish

Surprisingly, the first-ever javelin world record set in the stadium came 46 years after it was built.

On July 29, 1982, Finland's Tiina Lillak threw 72.40 metres for the world record - and the same woman was to win an everlasting place in Finnish sporting folklore back in the Olympie stadium

s year later. With one throw remaining in the World Championship

javelin competition, Britain's Farima Whithread was in gold medal position after her first-round throw of 69.14

Then, with her final throw, Lillak threw 70.82m to send 50,000 home fans wild with delight as they celebrated a Finnish gold medal.

More than 30 years earlier the home crowd also cheered another Finnish legend in the same stadium - the incomparable Paavo Nurmi, who dominated distance running in the 1920s and 1930s.

Nurmi, multi-world record holder and Olympic cham-pion, who had been hanned from the 1932 Olympics by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), for alleged financial irregularities, was 55 by the time the Helsinki Olympics were staged in 1952.

But that did not stop him making one final lap of the track — as the Olympie torch-holder in the opening The identity of the torch-holder had been kept secret anti lthe hage electronic 5,000 and 10,000, Valeri Borscoreboard flashed out the word "Nurmi," hringing lumps to thousands of throats hefore the 70,000 fans cheered as the small, balding man carried the Olympic

torch around the stadium. Nurmi's statue has been in the stadium grounds for the last 40 years, and on Saturday was joined by a new statue just a few metres away.

A bronze statue of Lasse Viren, who won the 5,000 and 10,000 titles in both 1972 and 1976, was unveiled by IAAF President Primo Nebiolo, a fitting tribue to, as Nebiolo called him, "one of the greatest runners in the history of the sport."

And while Viren stood smiling as the ceremony unfolded, he might have cast his mind back to the last time the Enropean Championships were staged here 23 years

The stars of those games

were Finland's Jnha Vaatainen, who won the zov, Karel Lismont, Janis Lusis and Renate Stecher. Among the also-rans that week in 1971 was Viren, who finished seventh in the 5,000.

and 17th in the 10,000. Just over a year later Viren returned to run a world record 5,000 in 13:16.4, the last individual men's track record set in the stadium.

The venue has undergone a facelift for these championships and is one of the. best stadiums in Europe. It is also unique in that it is the only one with a 72-metre

high tower built into it. Legend has it that the height of the tower corresponds to the distance of Finn Matti Jarvinen's winning javelin throw at the 1932 Olympic Games.

It's a story that may or may not be true, but adds to the romance surrounding a real venue of legends.

whether St. Petersburg will

have either the facilities or

the expertise to hold an

Olympics.
"I think 2004 will be too

soon in terms of the exten-

sive preparations that will

really be necessary to host

26 sports in different

venues for three or four

sports. The Olympies

would require more facili-ties and really more infras-

tructure than exists today."

Certainly in terms of

architecture, culture and history St. Petersburg rivals

Barceiona, which staged a spectacular and successful

Olympics two years ago.
Founded in 1703 as a
"window on the West" by

Peter the Great, St. Peters-

burg was the capital of the

czars for 200 years, a city

heady with power, excess

and brutality.

It was the cradle for the

Russian revolution which

overthrew the czars and

brought the Bolsheviks to

power and then, renamed Leningrad, withstood 900 days of Nazi siege in the

World War II. Now St. Perersburg

again after the collapse of

the Soviet Union three

years, the city embodies

the contradictions and chal-

lenges of the new Russia.

"Here we have some

venues," Kelly said.

Cheers for German, jeers for Frenchman

LONDON (AP) — The German was nobbed by excited fans as he left the field. The Frenchman walked off alone, disgraced by yet another red card.

Juergen Klinsmann made his first appearance for Tottenham Saturday in a pre-season exhibition game at division one Watford and was an instant hit with the Spurs followers.

The German, scorer of five goals in the World Cup, didn't find the target this time in a 1-1 tie but did enough to make him a favourite among the 8,000

Tottenham fans crammed into Watford's modest 15,000 capacity stadium. Eric Cantona, sent off twice towards the end of

last season, saw red again Saturday. Only 90 seconds after he was shown the yellow card for dissent playing for Manchester Un-ited in a 1-0 exhibition loss at Glasgow Rangers, he was shown the red one for a two-footed lunge at the home team's Steven Press-

While Tottenham almost certainly have Kimsmann on its lineup for the opening game of the Premier.

League season at Sheffield

Wednesday Aug. 20, United is hracing itself for
losing Cantona for the first three.

"Eric thought there was an injustice against him. He admits he can't control his temper," United Manager Alex Ferguson said. "We expect him to miss

two or three matches through suspension and be out for the start of the season. But we will just have to live with his faults as well as the good points of his game.

NEWS IN BRIEF

British sprinter tests positive for ephedrine

HELSINKI (R) — British sprinter Solo-mon Wariso has tested positive for ephedrine, but could still compete in the European Athletic Championships, a British team spokesman said on Sunday. Traces of ephedrine were found in the sample taken from Wariso at a meeting in Gateshead England, on July 1. But British Athletic Federation spokesman Tony Ward said that Wariso could still compete in the championships because the results of the "B" sample will not be known until later this mouth, after the end of the cham-"We are supporting Solomon because as far as we are concerned he has tested for an "inadvertent positive" meaning he took the ephedrine by mistake in a herbal remedy he bought in the United States. "Technically he is not yet been proved quilty of the offence or suspended, so could still run here."

Simpson attorneys may use ice cream in defence

NEW YORK (AP) - A cup of partially frozen ic cream was found near the bloodied bodies of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman, raising new questions about when the victims were killed, Newsweek reported. The defence may use the ice cream to argue that the victims were alive later than prosecutors have contended, making it impossible for for-mer NFL star and actor O.J. Simpson to have killed his ex-wife and her friend, the magazine said in its Aug. 15 issue. Ms. Simpson, 35, and Goldman, 25, were formd stabbed and slashed to death outside Ms. Simpson's Brentwood condominium on June 13. Simpson has pleaded innocent to murder charges. Prosecutors have said Ms. Simpson and Goldman died between 10:15 p.m. and 11 p.m. on June 12. But police found the cup, with much of the ice cream still frozen, near the bodies sometime after 12:10 a.m. on July 13, unidentified defense sources told the magazine. The timing of the discovery would suggest that Ms. Simpson and Goldman were alive after 11 p.m. because otherwise the ice cream would have melted in the 60-degree heat, Newsweek said. By 11 p.m., Mr. Simpson was en route to Los Angeles international airport for a trip to Chicago, Simpson's limousine driver has said, Messages left at the offices of Simpson lawyers Robert Shapiro and Johnnie Cochran Jr.

were not returned Saturday. Los Angeles Police Department spokesman Don Cox said the department would not comment. Belarus grandmaster qualifies for semilinals

HYDERABAD, India (AP) — Grand-master Boris Gelfand of Belarus defeated Russia's Vladimir Kramnik in their eight game Saturday, qualifying for the \$500,000 world chess championship semifinals. Gelfand's victory came on the 63rd move. Gelfand secured a total of 4.5 points against Kramnik's 3.5. In other developagainst Kramnik's 3.5. In other developments Saturday, organisers announced that U.S. Grandmaster Gata Kamasky and Anand will play a tie-breaker to decide who will qualify for the semifinals. After their scheduled eight game series, both were tied with four points each. A total of six grandmasters were taking part in the quarterfinals, sponsored by the World Chess Federation, known by its acronym FIDE. Three will qualify to the next stage. In the other game, Russian Grandmaster Valery Salov surged forward with a one point lead over Jan Timman of the Netherlands after an outright victory in the seventh game.

Romario punched, jeered in exhibition game RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) -Romario may wish he had gone back to Barcelona. The most valuable player in the World Cup was punched in the face and jeered during an exhibition game Thursday night, the O Globo newspaper reported Saturday. Powering is on reception in Pro-Saturday. Romario is on vacation in Brazil, defying orders from his Barcelona club to report to training camp. The incidents occurred during a game between a team of "friends of Romario" and a veterans' team from Espirito Santo State in Vitoria, 521 kilometres northeast of Rio. Mauro, a fullback from the veterans' team, tried to greet Romario before the game, claiming the two knew each other from Rio.
According to O Globo, Romario ordered
him expelled from the locker room, and Mauro reached over and punched him in the face. Romario, who received \$50,000 to play, held up the start of the game and left before it was over. The crowd of just 824 whistled. But he left his mark with a penalty kick for his team's only score in a 1-1 tic. Earlier this week, Romario said he expected to stay at least 15 more days in Brazil, adding that he would willingly pay a fine for disobeying team rules.

10.00

VILLA FOR RENT

Vasilli Karassev of Russia (left) looks to pass the ball

by Cory Hallas of Canada during their World

Basketball Championship opening round game. This

is the eleventh meeting between these teams in

international play. Russia won 73-66 (AFP photo)

Location: Abdoun, near to the American embassy. Has 2 floors, roof and basement. Each has separate main door, with central heating. Also it has large garden, swimming pool,, reservoir, garage...etc. The area of the building is about 970m².

For more information, please call: 829372, after 4 o'clock p.m. and 602929, 606431 after 8:30 a.m.



'St. Petersburg bid unlikely to succeed Not surprisingly Kelly, an experienced and skilful

ST. PETRESBURG (R) As a stunnig backdrop
for the internationally televised Goodwill Games, St. Petersburg has been unsur-

passed. As a candidate for the 2004 Olympics, it will have serious problems persuading the International Olympic Committee (IOC) that it can successfully stage the world's higgest sporting

Goodwill Games' President Jack Kelly has been a master of diplomacy throughout the 16-day multi-sports Goodwill Games which ended on Sunday, making light of the usual endless succession of

But even he finally lost

his temper when Russian officials promised, but did not deliver, a proper ice skating rink in time for the start of either the short speed skating or the figure

"I told the mayor (Anatoly Sobchak) that in Russia you create a problem, then solve the problem and think yon've achieved something," Kel-ly said. "We think you've finished even."

Russia poured the full resources of the Communist state in to the 1980 Moscow Olympics now private enterprise must fill the gap in a country where Kelly among others has dis-covered rhetoric often substitutes for reality.

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Bathroom 5. Sitting room (family room) size: 6mX6m. with terrace.

6. Entrance size: 5mX3m. Salon size: 14mX6.40m

2. Bedroom size: 5.80mX4.5m. Bedroom size: 4mX4m.

Dining room size: 6mX5.5m. 9. Kitchen size: 8mX5m.

10. Guest bathroom. .11. Big garden with one car garage. Water reservoir 100 cubic metres, electricity operated window shutters. 12. Accommodation for servant in the garden. There is possibility to rent the whole three-floor villa.

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Becker, Woodforde reach Los Angeles final

TENNIS ROUNDUP

OS ANGELES (AP) eded Australian Mark hodforde survived Richard ficele's 192-kmh serves a three-set battle in to the Los Angeles with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3

mulforde reached his final of the year and will No. 2 Boris Becker in had y's championship on the University of California erts. Becker defeated No. Jason Stoltenberg of Aualia 6-4, 6-4 in the other

Reaching a final is fantas-Fic " said Woodforde, ranked 33rd in the world in singles, but known primarily for his doubles success. "It's a geat

Woodforde's first victory over Krajicek in five career meetings was a replay of the 1992 L.A. Open final, which Kraticek won in three sets. Krajicek, the fifth seed from the Netherlands, also won here in 1993.

Glasgow Rub

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at Sheffield

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comment

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This time, Woodforde's serve-and-volley game with-stood Krajicek's booming serve, which produced 13 aces to Woodforde's 10.

"He has a good serve and a good volley and those are his iggest strengths," Krajicek

Woodforde led 40-love in the sixth game of the first set before Krajicek saved one break point, then double faulted to lose the game. Krajicek bad two break points in the final game, but failed to capitalise and lost

"Mark played pretty well," Krajicek said. "It was very hot. I was struggling more today than yesterday. I' should have done more. serve-and-volley and press-

ured the guy."

Krajicek, ranked 25th in the world, quickly recovered in the second set, taking a 4-2 lead before serving it out to tie the match.

In the third, Woodforde had three break points when Krajicek fired two aces toreach deuce. Another big serve and a backhand drop volley allowed Krajicek to tie

it up, 2-2.
"I did get a bit discouraged when I got those three break points," Woodforde said. "Before I used to show my frustration. But today I just wanted to concentrate. I could not have played two better points, but then he .made a fautastic backhand."

Woodforde committed

three double faults in the

seventh game, but nailed a

crosscourt backhand volley

winner to go up 4-3. Woodforde is also in Sun-

day's doubles final with part-

ner John Fitzgerald.

Becker needed 76 minutes

to dispatch Stoltenberg in a

night match.
The German had three set

points in the ninth game, but

Stoltenberg held serve to

climb to 5-4. Then Becker

closed out the first set, losing

just seven points on his serve.

Stoltenberg, who npset No. 3 Andre Agassi in the quarterfinals, led 4-3 in the second. Bocker held serve to tie the set, broke Stoltenberg in the next game with a backhand down the line and won the final three games of the match. Becker had 34 win-

ners to Stoltenberg's 13.
"He served well," Stoltenberg said. "I really couldn't do anything. I felt power-

Santoro stons Muster

KITZBUEHEL, Austria (AP) — Fabrice Santoro of France stunned Austrian favourite Thomas Muster on Saturday for the right to face No. 2-ranked Goran Iva-nisevic in the final of the \$410,000 EA Generali Tennis

Santoro drew applause even from the partisan Au-strian crowd as he held off an

aggressive-playing Muster with repeated strong rallies to win 2-6, 7-6 (8-6), 7-6 (7-4).

Muster, the tournament's No. 2 seed and defending

champion, looked frustrated

as he left the clay court after

his unseeded, 21-year-old

Muster, 12th in the World

ATP Tour Rankings, had a

chance to win the match in

the second set, but failed to

capitalise on a match point.

seesaw endurance test in

temperatures that soared to

the mid 40s celsius on court.

No relief is expected before

Top-seeded Ivanisevic had

an easier time of it against Tomas Carbonell of Spain,

winning 7-6 (7-4), 6-0, in 74 minutes. But he appeared

Relying on a finesse game, Carbonell managed to break

Ivanisevic's blistering serve

twice to force the set to a

Stung by having his serve broken for the first time in

the tournament, the Croat at

times looked like the temper-

amental Ivanissevic of old —

swatting his racket about and

muttering to himself over un-

however, and he buried Car-

today, and I was very ner-vous," Ivanisevic said after-

Bruguera, Medvedev adv-

PRAGUE, Czech Republic

(AP) — Spain's Sergi Bru-

"I wasn't there mentally

bonell in the second set.

unsettled in the first set.

Sunday's final.

tiebreak.

forced errors.

Deft Springer

ance to final

ward.

The contest then became a

Tahitian-born opponent.

the three-hour marathon. "He played perfect serve-volley tennis," Muster said of guera and Andrei Medvedev of the Ukraine enjoyed easy matches Saturday, advancing to the final of the \$365,000 Skoda Czech Opeo men's tennis tournament at the Stvanice clay-court Stadium. Bruguera breezed by sixth-

seeded fellow Spaniard

Alberto Costa 6-1, 6-3. The top seed and defending champioo came on with his usual athletic play, peppered with dropshots and net approaches, taking a commanding lead early in the first set and winning 6-1 in just 25

The 19-year-old Costa, a former junior world champion, built a 3-1 lead in the second set, but squandered two breakpoints and finally lost the set and match after netting an easy overhead

"I was playing very com-fortably and he was maybe trying too hard," Bruguera said after the match. Second-seeded Medvedev

disposed of local hero and third-seeded Slava Dosedel of the Czech Republic with equal ease.

The visibly oervous Dosedel lost the first set with double fault and never turned on the kind of game that brought him to the semi

Medvedev needed just 64 minutes to subdue his opponent with patient baseline

Graf, Sanchez Vicario advance to final

CARLSBAD, California (R) World number ooe Steffi Graf and second-ranked Arantxa Sanchez Vicario will meet in a rematch of last year's final after posting semifinal victories at the \$400,000 Toshiba Teonis Classic on Saturday.

Graf, the top seed and defending champion seeking her fourth title here, scored a 6-3, 6-4 win over unseeded American Tami Whitlinger-Jones, who advanced when fourth seed Lindsay Davenport defaulted with an injury.

Freoch Opeo champion Sanchez had a surprisingly easy time in ending the 20match winning streak of third-seeded Wimbledoo winner Conchita Martinez, 6-4, 6-1.

Graf, who needed three His serves lost none of sets in each of her two preform on Saturday but still had trouble closing ont sets after taking leads of 5-1 in the first and 5-2 in the second.

"It's difficult to say if I was 100 per cent happy today but I felt much better," said the German star, who bas been in a slump since her stunning first-round loss at Wimble



American Tim Grubb and his horse Elan Denizen fall during the individual competition at the World Equestrian Games (AFP photo)

German wins gold at World Equestrian Games

THE HAGUE (R) — Germany's Michael Freund won the individual gold in the four-in-band driving ebampiooships at the World Equestrian Games

on Sunday, George Bowman of Bri-tain took the silver and defending champion, Dutchman lisbrand Chardon, the bronze.

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

Freund, who had to put a last-minute substitute into his team when one of his horses was found lame, was clear through all 20 of the obstacles of the final condriving phase, which calls

for great accuracy. Although he collected half a penalty for exceeding the time allowed, his threeday score, after the dressage, marathon and cones, of 122,50 points, was suffi-cient to give him victory over Bowmao by 3.55 penalties

Bowman, a 59-year-old carpet wholesaler for Cumbria, England, and 16 times British national champion, held his silver medal position with another masterly clear round, leaving Freund with no margin of error. Less fluent at one or two of the cones than Bowman, he nevertheless left the cones standing,

For Freund, 39, who runs a horse feed business and small garden centre at New-Isenburg, this was a first world championship ti-

GOREN BRIDGE

THE LITTLEST CHANCE .

Neither vulnerable. South deals. PAG54 OAK6 ±764 EAST 67 ±654 ∇Q107 ♦ 1093 • 10963 SOUTH AQJ2 Kaz

The bidding:
South West North East
-I-NT Pess 6 NT Pess
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of a High cards are only one way to entere tricks. If you can exhaust your opponents' holding in a suit, even relatively low cards will become winners. On some hands you might be able to test more than one possibility in the search for an extra trick, as long as you go about your business and play your cards in the right order.

business and play your cards in the right order. North simply added 18 points to partner's announced 16-18 to deterine there were enough points present for a small slam, but not enough for a grand. Note that North did not employ the Stayman Con-vention to check for a 4-4 major unit fit; most players ignore Stayman when they have a 4-3-3-3 hand

pattern.
West led the ten of spades and declarer could count 11 gold-plated winners. At first glance it might seem South will need a successful club finesse to land the slam, but there is shother chance. If bearts divide 3.3 a long heart can be setablished a

established.

Does it matter which possibility
declarer goes after first? And how! If
declarer taless the club finesse and it
loses, declarer won't be able to surrender a heart in an attempt to set

Should declarer go after hearts by ceshing the ace-king and conceding a heart? In the immortal words of Eliza Doclittle: "Not bloody likely!". If the hearts divide 4-2, declarer would lose two heart tricks and the

tous lose two near tracks and the club finesse wout matter. Correct is to dock a heart at trick two. Declarer can then win any ra-turn and cash the ace-king of hearts. If the suit breaks, 12 tricks can be claimed. If not, declarer still has the club finesse in reserve. chib finesse in reserve.

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A	Richard Gere/Sharon Stone in INTERSECTION Shows:12:30, 3:30, 6:16, 8:30, 10:30	Sharihan-Mahmoud Hamideh — Hussein Fahmi in Women's market Arabic Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.s	BODINEOOD	John Saxon/Sherrie Rose — in MAXIMUM FORCE Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00	Today & Everyday Abu, Awwad in social comedy "FUNCTURED BAG"	Present their play: WHAT A PFACE! (Salar Ya Salam) Daily at 8:30 p.m. The theatre is closed on Tue days.

Diana arrives

VINEYARD HAVEN, Massachusetts (AP) — President

Bill Clinton will have to wait.

For now, Princess Di is the

reigning celebrity on the is-land. Police for the township

of Tisbury confirmed Saturday that Diana, Princess of

Wales, is staying on Martha's Vineyard, the island that is

expected to host Mr. Clinton

and his family later this week.
"I understand she is on-

island, but there's no further

information," said a Tisbury police officer who spoke on

condition of anonymity. Exactly where on the island she is staying is another question. And there are as many answers as there are sources.

An island town official who

another adult. Another police source who did not want to be identified said the

princess was staying in Tis-

bury or West Tisbury,

townships on the northern

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NEWS IN BRIEF

S. Arabia denies it hired MiGs to fight in Yemen

RIYADH (AFP) - Saudi Arabia Sunday denied a British newspaper report that it had hired up to 12 MiG-29 warplanes flown by Russian pilots to fight in the Yemeni civil war. An official spokesman quoted by the Saudi News Agency SPA said: "The Sunday Times should not have published such a report which is utterly groundless." The Sunday Times, quoting the U.S. intelligence service, said the Saudis paid "millious of dollars" to the Russian pilots, who bombed the northern Yemeni forces. The jets were based at Al Rayyan airbase near Mukalla, south Yemen's second largest city, and returned to Russia when the civil war ended in July, the paper quoted the Central Intelli-gence Agency (CIA) as saying. The Sunday Times said "the presence of Russian armed forces acting as hired guns in a foreign war is causing concern in Washington. When the Russians were first confronted with the American intelligence they denied all knowledge of the operation," the paper said, but "now they claim that if such an operation did take place it was without official sanctions." An unnamed U.S. intelligence source told the paper: "In many ways that is even worse, as it raises questions about (Russian President) Boris Yeltsin's ability to control his own military. "If there is a group of fighter pilots for hire we want to know," the Sunday Times quoted the source as saying. "Equally, if this goes higher into the military command structure, we want to know that too."

24 killed in Turkish violence

ISTANBUL (R) — Turkish security forces have killed 20 Kurdish rebels in the last two days in the east and southeast of the country, an official statement said on Sunday. The statement from the emergency rule governor's office said four soldiers lost their lives in clashes in southeastern Mus and Hakkari provinces. It said 14 other rebels were detained in operations in five southern and southeastern provinces. At least 12,400 people have been killed, some 2,600 this year, in fighting between government troops and the outlawed Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) struggling for au independent bomeland in southeast Turkey since 1984.

Syrian claims he wants asylum in Israel

MARJAYOUN (AP) — Israeli-haeked militiameu errested a Syrian labourer after he infiltrated into their enclave Sunday, claiming be wanted asylum in Israel, security sources said. Speaking on condition of anonymity, the sources identified the man as Abdul Qader Darwish, 27. He was arrested by militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) on the edge of the central sector of Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon. The sources said Darwish told his interrogators that as a fighter with Syria's Arab Baath Socialist Party, he had been involved in cuerrilla attacks against the Israelis and their allies in South Lebanon and was wounded several times. He said be decided to seek asylum in Israel because the Syrian government never paid him any compensation or refunded his medical bills, forcing him to work in Lebanon as a construction labourer. The authenticity of his claims could uot be verified and the sources gave no details of the attacks he allegedly was involved in.

Germany opens office in Jericho

BONN (AP) - Germany on Monday was to open the first diplomatic representation in the autonomous Palestinian area, a Jericho office that will focus on coordinating a \$170 million German aid programme. Germany will belp build a Palestinian police force, train administrators and journalists and belp sewage, hospitals, and water in the autonemous region, a statement from the foreign ministry said. "Lasting peace and stability can only come to the war-battered Middle East when the economic and social conditions of its peoples bave improved considerably," Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said. Israel approved of diplomatic representations in the autonomous areas under its peace agreement with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). The 12-nation European Uniou pledged 500 million ECUs (\$600 million) in aid to the autonomous areas through 1998. Germany's share is about \$170 million.

UNOSOM condemns kliling of Zimbabwean

NAIROBI (AFP) - The U.N. Operation in Somalia ou Sunday condemned recent attacks on U.N. peacekeepers by Somali clan militia during which a Zimbabwean peacekeeper was killed at Belet Huen, north of Mogadishu, on July 30. In a statement faxed to AFP here from Mogadishu, the U.N. special envoy to Somalia, Victor Gbeho, said UNOSOM "strongly condemned the senseless killing of the Zimhabwean soldier, Private Moyo, and held those responsible fully accountable." Moyo was shot dead by Somali militia at a water point when he refused to hand over his weapon. Mr. Gbeho also condemned a recent forcible cutry and looting of equiment and vehicles, as well as personal belougings, from the UNOSOM civilian compound and the Zimbabwe camp in Belet Hueu. "Such actions do not favour the interests of Somalia, particularly at a time when the U.N. Security Council is reviewing the role of the U.N. in the country," Mr. Gbeho warned, edding that it was imperative that all Somali leaders cooperate with UNOSOM to ensure the success of its

6,900 to stand in Syrian elections

DAMASCUS (AFP) — More than 6,900 candidates will stand in forthcoming legislative elections here chasing just 250 seats in the parliamentary People's Assembly, the media said Sunday. According to figures provided by the Interior Ministry, the electoral commission rejected 463 people who presented themselves as potential candidates. Now 6,971 will stand in the elections due to be held on Aug. 24 and 25 when more than seven million Syrians are registered to vote out of the 15 million population. The last elections held in May 1990 were won by 166 candidates from the ruling coalition the National Propessive Front headed by President Hafez Al Assad and grouping seven parties including the main Baath party. The other 84 seats went to independent candidates.

Kuwalti executed for raping girl

KUWAIT (AP) - A Kuwaiti man was hanged Sunday for involvement in the abduction and rape of a 10-year-old Egyptian girl last year, an Interior Ministry official said. Speaking in exchange for anonymity, he said Mohammad Kulaib Al Rashidi, 29, was executed at the central prison. The girl, whose name was not disclosed, was kidnapped and abused for two days before security forces uncovered her abductors' hideout and arrested them. As juveniles, Rashidi's three accomplices got lighter sentences of 10 years in jail each.

Egypt denies Alfi cousin Imprisoned in Sudan

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt on Saturday denied a report that a cousin of Interior Minister Hassan Al Alfi bad been seutenced to prison in Sudan for adultery and attempted bribery, dismissing the story as part of an anti-Egyptian campaign by the Sudanese government. The Middle East News Agency, quoting an official source at the ministry, said the minister did not have a consin named Farouq Hassan Al Alfi, identified in a report by the official Sudan News Agency as the relative in question. The Sudanese agency reported earlier Saturday that Mr. Alfi, personnel director of the Egyptian irrigation office in Sudan, had also been ordered by a criminal court in Khartoum to pay a fine of 50,000 Su anese pounds (\$170). In Cairo the interior ministry official denounced the report as "false news that is part of a media campaign launched by the Sudanese regime

Socialist International backs Jordan's moves

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali on Sunday received the chairman of the Middle East Committee at Socialist International, Hanz Yorgen, who arrived here as part of a tour in the region, which has taken him to Syria and the Gaza Strip in the Palestinian self-rule

Dr. Majali listened to a briefing by Mr. Yorgen on the outcome of his tour of the region and the role of Socialist International in enhancing the Middle East peace process. Mr. Yorgen welcomed the Washington Declaration, saying that it "gives momentum to peace talks on other tracks and enhances stability, and security, and accelerates the steps towards a comprehensive and lasting peace in the

Dr. Majali praised Socialist International's endeavours to ensure broader understanding among the countries of the region and the European Union. Dr. Majali welcomed a meeting of the organisation, which will be held in Brussels before the end of the year, with representatives of Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Israel and

Turkey attending.

'Dr. Majali said Jordan respects all political schools and trends, particularly those aimed at easing human suffering.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State Abdullah



day holds talks with Hanz Yorgen (centre), a senior Socialist International leader, in a

meeting attended by Minister lak Jazi (Petra photo)

Opposition presses its push against peace talks in letter to prime minister

By Ayman Al Safadi Jordan Times Staff reporter

AMMAN — Opposition parties on Sunday reiterated their claim that the majority of the Jordanian people are against the fordaniau-Israeli peace talks and urged the government to "return to the people" to find out where they stand on what they called an issue of crucial implications to the nation and its

'The current talks will transfer Jordan from a party to a large conflict with the Zionist euemy to a country at peace with it. This is a crucial issue which requires deep study and the engagement of the people in a thorough dialogue," eight political parties said in a letter to Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali.

His Majesty King Hussein said last week he was considering conducting a plebiscite ou the peace talks but many lawmakers' said such a step was not needed in light of support of the majority of deputies to the peace talks.

ment of ignoring the will of the people and their politic-

Sifi pledges

democracy

ALGIERS (AFP) — Algerian Prime Minister Mokdad

Sifi called Sunday on leaders

of legal opposition parties to

help him prepare for fresh

elections, pledging to ensure a swift return to democracy.

Presenting bis govern-ment's administrative prog-

ramme to the country's tran-sitional legislature, Mr. Sifi

called on unnamed "party leaders and their activists" to

contribute to organising new polls on an unspecified date.

"You call for dialogue: Come and talk," he told

them. "You call for elections:

Help us to organise them.

You want power: Seek it

from the people in a demo-

cratic manner through the

Laying out the major

strategic aims of the prog-

ramme to the national transitional council (CNT), Mr. Sifi called on the opposition to put "the interests of the country and the people before party politics."

The CNT comprises 178

members representing some

30 parties, unions and em-

the greatest number of votes

in Algeria's last general elec-

tion in December 1991 are

not represented in the in-terim legislature.

But the parties which won

ployer organisations.

ballot box."

al parties and institutions. which "reflect the public opinion" in the Kingdom, the opposition parties also demanded that the government refer its recent moves in the peace talks to Parlia-

In the letter, which was sent one day before Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was making his first public visit to the Kingdom, the opposition parties criticised the government for conducting the talks without the approval of without the approval of Parliament. The parties made this criticism even though the Constitution grants the executive branch the right to negotiate treaties without seeking the approval of the legislature.
The parties belittled the

significance of the expression of support to the talks by the majority of members of the Lower House, saying the "approval of some deputies" was expressed out-side "the parliamentary framework.

Fifty-one out of the 80 members of the House said in letters to King Hussein ported his policies on the peace talks in what was

PARIS (Agencies) — Hun-dreds of French police set up

road checks in the capital,

anthorities said Sunday,

sending a message to Alge-

rian militants threatening the

French government.
The 500-strong police op-

cration Saturday night stop-

ped cars at three sites in

eastern Paris, home to a large

immigrant population, and at the Arch of Triumph in west-

But the operatiou's effect

appeared largely symbolic.
Among some 3,000 people questioned, only about 50 people were detained for lacking valid immigratiou

papers, carrying knives or drunkenness, officials said.

been planned since last week,

"the threat by the Islamic Salvation Army (AIS) gave

the operation more import-

ance," said an interior minis-

try spokesman on customary

anonymity.
On Saturday a communi-

que by the Algerian group

threatened unspecified re-

prisals against the French

government unless fundemental-ist supporters jailed in France

were released im

mediately. Seventeen were

rounded up in recent days."

message to militants that "all

measures were taken to face

The police operation seut a

While the searach had

ern Paris, officials said.

parliamentary mandate to the government to proceed with its policies on the

Observers also said the letters discredit the opposition's claims that they represeut the majority of Jordanians when they reject the new developments in the peace process.

The opposition eight also questioned the government's commitment to the democratic process and accased it of manipulating the official media to show that the majority of Jordanians are supportive of the peace

Accusing the govern-ment of "conceding all of Palestine to the enemy and dropping Jerusalem as a political issue," among other "concessious" to Israel, the eight political parties, which have taken the lead in opposing the talks, claimed that the Jordanian people will reject any agreements the ject any agreements the talks would lead to.

The parties, which included Islamists, leftists and pan-Arabist parties, ment withdraw from the talks and reverse all the

France on Saturday dismis-

sed a demand by AIG the military wing of the Islamic

Salvation Front (FIS), to free the 17 people seized by au-thorities following Wednes-

day's guerrilla attack on a Freueh embassy housing

compound iu Algiers in

which seven French officials

The militaut Algerian

Armed Islamic Group (AIG) has claimed responsibility for the attack. On Saturday the

AIG warned Algerian stu-

dents and teachers to stay

away from schools and uni-

versities and said any which

stayed open would be blown

The 17 detainees, accused

by Interior Minister Charles

Pasqua of "support for ter-

rorism" while on French soil,

were being held in an army camp in the village of Folem-bray, northeast of Paris.

ported Algeria's army-backed authorities since they

cancelled a general election in Janaury 1992 which the

FIS was poised to win. At least 4,000 Algerians and 56 foreigners have been killed in

The FIS bas been banned

in Algeria and is a prime

subsequent violeuce.

Paris has strongly sup-

up or burnt down.

ministry takes the threat of these brothers, most-of

in Paris.

Paris springs security net

seriously.

were killed.

the normalisation of relations with Israel because they "violate Jordanian

Despite their claim to have the support of the majority of the people in their stand, the opposition parties have thus far failed to demonstrate any proof to their claim.

Since the breakthrough in the Jordanian-Israeli talks was made July 18 when the two countries held their first public meeting in the area, the opposition has been confined to the issuance of statements that claim most of Jordanians are opposed to the talks.

The opposition eight have declared a day of national mourning July 25 when King Hussein signed the Washington Declaration with Mr. Rabin, but few people seemed to have taken up the call and life went as normal in the King-

Supporters of the peace process cited normalcy of life in the Kingdom as a Jordanians are behind the peace talks.

them members of the FIS or

sympathisers in the cause for

which they are fighting,

means that France has de-

clared war on the FIS and on

Algerian Muslims," the AIS

lated in Algiers and obtained

"France should renounce this policy of belligerence and

free our brothers or it will

assume responsibility for

what will happen at the hands of the mnjahideen affiliated with the AIS," said the state-

Interior ministry officials said it ordered a tightening of

security across France in anti-

cipation of such threats when

the decision was made to

round up suspected activists.
In addition to the streets of

Paris, police surveillance was

also heing increased at

embassies, railway stations and airports, the officials

Mr. Pasqua told French television all of those de-

tained were served with ex-

pulsion orders, but he added

France will not expel them at

this time because their lives would be in danger if they

were forced to return to

If they could find a country

willing to take them, they

- said in a statement circu-

Journalists step up pressure on Arafat

By Mariam M. Shahin

AMMAN — Palestiuiau

PNA president to meet an Al Nahar delegation in Gaza and discuss the ban on the Al Nahar and freedom of the press," an Al Nahar staff member told the Jordan Times Sunday in the first telephoue interview couducted by the paper after direct telephone services between Jordan, Israel and the

itv.

PNA anthorities said that the paper did not have a licence to operate. But most Palestiman journalists and politicians say that the licensing issue was used as a pretext to

The whole government is

Arabic daily newspaper, the Al Quds, Saturday sacked one of its prominent writers, Daoud Kuttab, after he signed a petition against the closure of Al Nahar.

plans to ban any voice of dissent in the Palestinian press. A mouthpiece of the PNA president, called the Al Aqsa uewspaper, is being prepared for distribution in the occupied territories and the self-rule areas.

Palestinian journalists, in-tellectuals, human rights activists and politicians are creating lobbying groups in the occupied territories to pressure the PNA to apply democratic methods and allow for full freedom of speech under Palestinian rule, activists said.

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

journalists stepped up press-ure on Palestinian National Authority (PNA) President Yasser Arafat to reverse a ban on the distribution of the Arabic language daily Al Nahar Sunday with a petition seeking a meeting with them in person to discuss the measures his government was taking against freedom of the "We have petitioned the

occupied territories was in-troduced Sunday.

"We began this petition several days ago and so far we have not gotten an answer and it does not look like Arafat wants to talk to us,' id the Al Nahar staff member on condition of anonym-

The July 29 decision to ban the distribution of Al Nahar, which is considered pro-Jordanian, was made by Mr. Arafat and came after His Majesty King Hussein and Israeb Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin agreed to end 46 years of hostilities between Jordan and Israel, and Israel acknowledged Jordan's historic role in Muslim boly sites

The reference to Jerusalem, which Palestinians consider the capital of their future state, reportedly in-furiated the PNA president and led to a backlash against the pro-Amman paper.

At the time of the ban,

stop the papers' distribution.

Al Nahar staff members say that most PNA ministers

including Minister of In-formation Yasser Abed Rabbo, as well as Faisal Husseini, Samir Ghosheh and Palestinian human rights activist and former spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi are all supportive of Al Nahar's right to continue publishing and distributing.

behind us. They were not consulted," said the Al Nahar staff member, "The decision to ban distribution was taken by one person and now we are trying to see that person," he said. The only other operational

Palestinian journalists say that they fear that Mr. Arafat

asked not to be named told the Cape Cod Times that the princess had arrived with at least two children and

part of the Vineyard. That source said the princess flew to the island Thursday afternoon and planned to stay for 10 days. He said he saw the princess in the area, riding in a white limousine. Reporters at the Vineyard Gazette also said they had heard the princess was in West Tisbury. Rumours flew that she was staving with the Brazilian ambassador to the United States. Paulo Tarso Flecha De Lima, at his house in Lambert's Cove on the Tisbury-West Tisbury border. The U.S. State Department would not confirm whether Princess Diana was vacationing on the island. "Princess Di is on a personal and private trip and it is inappropriate for us to make any comment on the matter," said press officer Julie Reside. Buckingbam Palace would not comment. Neither

U.K. MP suggests building

would the press office of the British embassy in Boston.

new royal palace LONDON (R) — Britain's Queen Elizabeth should move out of Buckingham Palace and into a new modern residence built by the country's top architects, an opposition Labour politician aid Suuday. Member of Parliament Mariorie Mowlan, in an article in the Mail On Sunday uewspaper, said Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle, west of the capital, were too oldfashioned and should be sold. As Britain approaches the end of the 20th century both the uation, and our most powerful symbol of nationhood, the monarchy, could do with... a gesture of self-confidence." "A new royal residence should be built to demonstrate this." Ms. Mowlan said the new "people's palace" should be thoroughly modern and not a pastiche of the past. She also suggested that other members of the royal family should pay for the palaces they live in. Ms. Mowlan said her plan offered potential savings from the £26.4 million (\$40.6 million) currently spent by the government on the royal palaces.

British princes set to inherit millions

LONDON (R) — Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has set up a trust fund estimated at up to £19 million (\$29.2 million) for ber great grandchildren, British newspaper said Sunday. The Observer, quoting sources close to Buckingham Palace, said the sons of Prince Charles and his estranged wife Princess Diana will share £4.9 million (\$7.5 million) on their 21st birthdays. "More than half— £2.9 million (\$4.5 million) will go to Prince Harry, because the Queen Mother fears his chances of securing personal wealth maybe limited," the newspaper said. Prince Harry, 9, is the yourger of the couple's two sons. His older hrother, Prince William, will inberit the throne from his father. The princes will also share £8 million (\$12.3 million) on meur 40th birthdays and the remaining £6.1 million is m trust for the Queen Mother's other four greatgrandchildren...

their threat," the spokesman said in a telephone interview. target of a French crackdown could leave immediately. Heading them is the since-ontlawed fundamentalist Islaon suspected fundamental-Otherwise, he planned to de-"It also shows the French tain them for "the time remic Salvation Front (FIS). "The arrest and detention population that the interior quired," Mr. Pasqua said.

Saudis sought nuclear arms capability — defector NEW YORK (R) - A former Saudi diplomat seeking political asylum in the United States says Saudi Arabia made secret efforts in the United States and China to acquire unclear arms, the New York Times reported in

Sunday editions. During an interview Friday, former diplomat Mohammad Al Khilewi produced letters to support his

allegations, the paper said. Mr. Khilewi, formerly the second-ranking official at Saudi Arabia's U.N. mission, said that in 1989 efforts were made to buy unclear research reactors from China and from

Marine Services Limited in Alexandria, Virginia.

Both efforts involved reactors known as miniature neutron source reactors, the New York Times said. Experts describe such reactors as small models suitable for research with relatively simple applications.

The newspaper said a Sandi embassy official in Washingon Adel Al Jubir, responding Saturday to a request for comment on Mr. Khilewi's allegations, had challenged the authenticity of the former diplomat's docu-ments but did not comment

on what they contained. Mr. Khilewi says he has 14,000 documents proving human rights abuses, terrorism and corruption by the Saudi government.

He also said he could coufirm media reports that the Saudis had contributed about \$5 billion to a covert Iraq nuclear programme prior to that country's invesion of Kuwait in 1990.

Mr. Jubir of the Saudi embassy pointed out that Saudi Arabia had openly offered to pay to rebuild Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor after it was destroyed by

Israeli warplanes in 1981, He seemed to be implying that any payments to Iraq might be connected to that offer. the New York Times said. Saudi Arabia signed the nuclear Non-Proliferation

Treaty in 1988, pledging not to acquire nuclear weapons. Despite U.S. pressure, it bas refused since then to sign a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the interna. tional Atomic Energy Agency as required by the treaty. Such an agreement would require the Szudis to declare any installations they possess and open them to international inspection.